MISCELLANY

Lampertheim - a borough of bird-fanciers

Five thousand little feathered singers in Lampertheim in the south of Hesse have been rehearsing in recent months for the international songbird competition in Verona.

Lampertheim's 23,000 inhabitants have dedicated themselves to breeding birds. Three thousand of them have formed four clubs to breed all kinds of birds from the traditional yellow canary warbler to various hybrids.

Germany became the home of bird breeding 500 years ago, when miners in the Harz mountains began to breed canaries.

These birds, called Harz rollers, were carried about in baskets and put on sale. They quickly won popularity. Nowadays there are Harz roller Clubs all over the world.

Just how the closely guarded prima donna of the Spanish nobility and clergy arrived in the Harz mountains after a shipwreck between the Canary Islands and Portugal remains a mystery.

But thanks to the Harz miners the canary's call of the wild was refined until it became a work of art. They invented artificial song machines, built like water-organs, as teachers for their singing schools.

Today the older birds are singing teachers. But "rather no teacher than a bad one," says Jakob Ziegler whose family has been bird breeders for generations in Lampertheim.

The canary mocks and imitates, just like little children who hear swear words and repeat them.

Hesse, Bavaria and the Ruhr are strongholds of bird breeders. Well over a million birds are reared in the Federal Republic each year, of which 400,000 are canaries. Breeders pay enormous prices for a good songbird. A feathered household warbler, on the other hand, can be bought for 20 to 100 Marks.

A canary will live for about the same time as a dog, twelve or thirteen years. Giants jets carry the little songsters from the places of breeding in this country to places as far-flung as North and South America, South Africa and the Far East.

Apart from the Federal Republic Canary Breeders Association there is a large breeders union in Kassel, the Wild Bird Fanciers' Club, and the Munich-based Exchange for Bird-Lovers and Breeders.

These societies go in for rearing exotic birds, brightly coloured canaries and parakeets. Parakeets are very much in fashion at present and they make wonderfully cheerful companions. All these birds have been thoroughly domesticated by years of breeding in capture, and if they escape they will soon perish in the wild.

But only singing canaries are qualified for championships. So the yearly Federal Republic championship is not a place for cheerful chirps and twitters, but an arena where competition is fierce.

The canaries' songs have been analysed and since 1957 worldwide rules have been laid down and points are now awarded for whistles, rolls, trills and other aspects of the canary repertoire.

Only the cock canary sings, and he is in his finest voice in the winter before roosting begins.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 9 August 1969)

All mod cons

During structural repairs to the Gr[illegible] Tower, near the Town Hall in Aa[illegible] Charlemagne's central-heating system [illegible] discovered.

Flues have been found in 4[illegible] 59-inch thick walls surrounding the [illegible]er apartments of the Emperor i[illegible] middle part of the tower, accordi[illegible] Aachen's Municipal Curator, Leo H[illegible]

Hot air passed through these f[illegible] coming from a central furnace [illegible] outside the tower, over 1,150 years [illegible]

However this furnace room must [illegible] been demolished during conversion [illegible] in the late middle ages.

The repair work to the tower i[illegible] supporting the walls with steel. The [illegible] ton Carolingian building has [illegible] started to tilt.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 August 19[illegible])

Frankfurt was a Stone Age village

Frankfurt is 2,000 years older than its inhabitants thought. Only now as excavation for the new underground railway is being carried out between the Cathedral and the Römer (Frankfurt's old town hall) can archaeologists dig deeper into the town's past than was permitted just after the War.

They now have a clear picture of the earlier settlements at the hill near the ford on the Main.

Previous archaeological finds have suggested that the first settlers on this site arrived about 1500 BC, but it has now been shown that the territory was occupied some two thousand years earlier.

Clay pots from the early Stone Age prove conclusively that Frankfurt's old town centre which was razed to the ground in the last war, was inhabited land 5,000 years ago in the early Stone Age, although only small numbers of these pots have been unearthed.

In 3500 BC, the first men must have built their homes on the hill which had been formed about 10,000 years earlier by alluvial deposit in the Main marshes.

After the early Stone Age and Bronze Age men came Celtic settlements on this site. Excavations between 1953 and 1957 unearthed numerous clay pits from the Celtic era. These give the impression [illegible] quite a large Celtic settlement once ex[illegible]ed here.

The Romans followed the Celts. [illegible]chaeologists have discovered a Rom[illegible] bath belonging to a citadel. The Rom[illegible] are said to have been here between [illegible] and 260 AD, when they were expelled [illegible] the Alemanni. An Alemannic Duke's p[illegible]ace replaced the Roman citadel.

At the end of the fifth century the Alemanni were defeated by the Merovingians. It is certain that on the ground where Frankfurt is situated there was [illegible] royal palace belonging to the Kings of the Franks and Merovingians, the fulcrum of Frankish power in the Rhine, Neck[illegible], Spessart and Wetterau areas.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 15 August 196[illegible])

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 16 September 1969
Eighth year - No. 388 - by air

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Pompidou and Bonn-Paris relations now

De Gaulle's plans for a "European Europe" have given us a lot of trouble. His visonary tendencies disturbed the every-day political scene, the suddenness of his decisions was calculated to shock his fellow EEC members in Europe. They were troubled by his stubbornness.

De Gaulle was a man who believed in consistent reconciliation with people in this country and limited cooperation with the Federal Republic. He was not the first to take this line, but he was so much more decisive in it that he had to break away from his own past. He signed the Friendship Treaty with this country.

It was Adenauer's wish that this Treaty should be solemnly respected. De Gaulle would have preferred it in the fom of a protocol, that is to say the form of a pragmatic modus operandi. Without this being in any way less obligatory.

In all his dealings with the Federal Republic, despite distancing himself and the French people, de Gaulle showed a sentimental mood. His emotions were self-explanatory.

M. Pompidou shows no sentimentality. He is continuing de Gaulle's work with considered comprehension and a gift for empathy as long as he considers this right. He changes his policy, however, when it seems expedient and if it is possible. So de Gaulle's successor is still a Gaullist.

Since many more Frenchmen approved of de Gaulle's foreign policy than of his domestic policy the idea of cooperation with this country has found sufficient supporters.

Certainly a different mood prevailed in France than in the Federal Republic since each country had a different point of view towards neighbourliness. Peoples tend to adhere to their basic national temperaments.

If it is to be accepted that cooperation with people in the Federal Republic still seems necessary to the greater mass of Frenchmen then the situation could be allowed to continue more or less as in the past and as at present.

I could be, however, that many Frenchmen consider de Gaulle's attitude to this country simply as the ex-President's hobby-horse. That would make people in Bonn sit up and take notice.

But this second possibility may seem completely superfluous since in fact the mutual relationship appears to be going well, and in certain spheres thriving. Contact between ministers in the two countries responsible for youth exchange programmes, for twining cities and military cooperation (in which General Massu does outstanding work), indicates that the future is obviously on the right lines.

Recent consultations in Bonn at which M. Pompidou appeared for the first time as French President in the Franco-Federal Republic talks will continue along the same lines as when broken off in March. At this time when de Gaulle was still President the communique issued after the meetings spoke of new approaches.

There were hesitations, obstacles and reverses as well as abrupt contradictions in European policy.

The two countries are continuing their new approaches. The moment is not particularly favourable for them: Bonn awaits the general elections, Paris is engaged in its stabilising policy. Great Steps forward are not to be expected. But a clear indication must be given of the extent to which this cooperation will be continued by the post-Gaullists and the policy makers in this country.

De Gaulle wanted to go a long way, even as far as "marriage" which he declared later had not been possible to arrange. The three-dimensional painting was reduced to a miniature. It was only later that de Gaulle put out feelers all over the world, some of which M. Pompidou was retracting and this will have effects on his policy towards this country. The more relationships between Paris and Washington improve, as they are constantly doing, the more difficult it becomes for Bonn to chose between the real or ostensible alternatives between France and America. This could cause an improvement in Franco-Federal Republic relationships, but it could lead to their being crippled.

It was not necessary to voice the moral issue expressly at the consultations in Bonn as to what extent French policies should be linked with this country's policies and vice versa. But this question is being answered indirectly.

In France last year's currency crisis and resentment against the Mark have not yet been forgotten. To begin with it is this country's economic potential which M. Pompidou is working into his policy towards the Federal Republic.

Maxim Fackler

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 September 1969)

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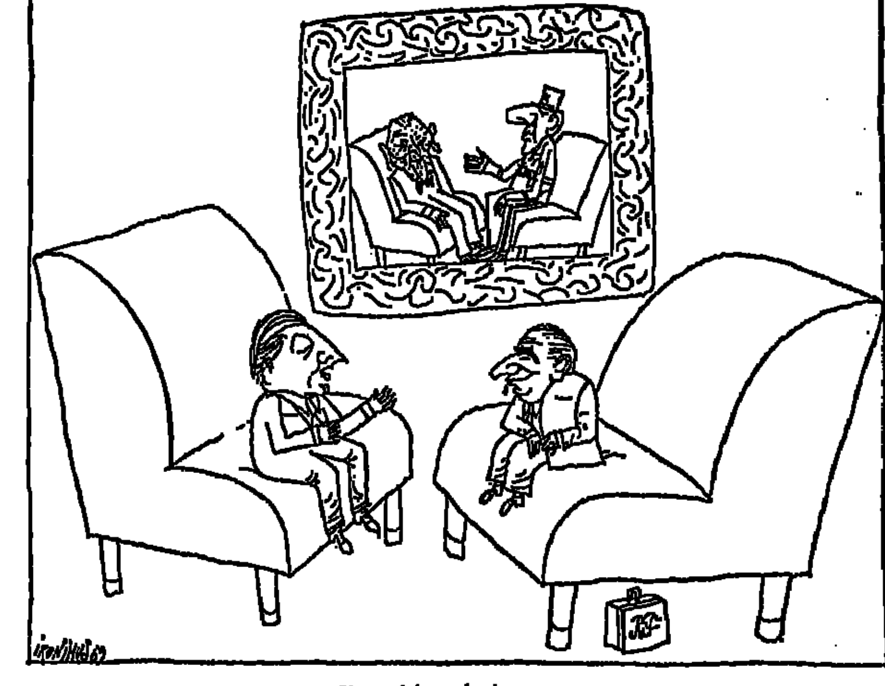
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The old and the new

(Cartoon: Ironimus/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Lip-service to suit the Soviets

Without doubt it can be regarded as a success for diplomats in Belgrade that the Soviet's Foreign Minister was prepared to back up the Belgrade Declaration signed by Marshal Tito and Nikita Khrushchev in 1955.

This declaration formulated the right for every communist country to find "its own way to Socialism".

It is another story just how much value Andrei Gromyko places on this signature. The historical situation need only be observed to see the clear abuse of these principles by Moscow in Hungary 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.

Gromyko himself spent a lot of time in Belgrade hunting for official confirmation of the principles of sovereignty, equal rights, independence and non-interference and he has always stressed the importance of proletarian internationalism.

Whereas he saw cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia as a prerequisite for further strengthening of Communism, the Yugoslavs understood it in the sense of far-reaching, overall, ideology-free European policy.

There are two possible reasons for Gromyko's having given away eventually. Apart from the wish to avoid strife it was also intended to reassure Yugoslavia that their country was not within the immediate range of the notorious Brezhnev Doctrine of limited sovereignty. Moscow is thinking mainly of helpful support for Belgrade in its much more important present aims for a European security conference.

Now that Moscow has forgotten all about its Czechoslovak adventure last year its main aim is to make other socialist countries forget about it by means of generous statements.

What this really boils down to is lip service paid by the Soviets at the right time to serve the interests of the major powers.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 September 1969)

Calls to battle in the war-torn Arab world

Arab countries are no longer thinking of a negotiated settlement of the Middle East crisis.

The battle cry of statesmen meeting in Cairo is unmistakeable. They want all military power in their possession to be thrown into the fray, although they have kept an understandable silence on military decisions made at the "little summit conference."

A strengthened guerilla attack in the Jordan Valley leads to the supposition that increased military and financial support from the "Freedom Front" in Palestine is part and parcel of the decisions that have been made in Cairo.

Earlier Arab summit conferences in Cairo have always led to confrontation with Israel being stepped up. In 1964 the Jordan water pipeline and the foundation of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLO) were decided upon.

The Arab collision course then ended in the Six-Day War. Yet warnings such as this war gave to the Arabs are tending more and more to be disregarded or misunderstood.

The coup in Libya and the participation of the Sudan (but not of Algeria) at the Cairo meeting seem in Arab eyes to be a sign of renewed strength and a common purpose.

Moscow is also giving encouragement. It was not unintentionally that the Soviet army paper *Red Star* in a commentary on the summit conference in Cairo laid before Arab countries the possibility of fighting to regain all occupied territories successfully.

They mean of course that this would be done with the help of Soviet armoury. What is absolutely certain is that the Soviet Union will do nothing that might curtail the Middle East conflict and will regard the latest developments favourably.

(DIE WELT, 5 September 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

West would gain little from a China-Russia conflict

DIE ZEIT
WOCHENZEITUNG FÜR POLITIK, WIRTSCHAFT, HANDEL UND KULTUR

Danger of a war between China and the Soviet Union is no longer completely ignored in Washington. Somewhat hesitantly and belatedly, but all the more urgently because of that, American Far Eastern experts, Kremlinologists and recently also the National Security Council have considered what repercussions the conflict could have on the United States.

The danger is still thought of as negligible especially when the deliberations of Soviet military strategists are taken into account. Their decisions are obviously determined by the fact that China already has a small supply of atomic weapons which is enough to make the large Soviet frontier towns of Vladivostok, Blagovyechtchensk, Chita and Irkutsk into virtual Chinese hostages in the event of a frontier war started by the Soviet Union.

In spite of Russia's superior mobility and fire-power she can no longer waltz into Manchuria and Peking as she did in the lightning campaign against the Japanese army in August 1945.

Any advance would soon be bogged down in partisan skirmishes created by the fanatical local population which would be utterly opposed to Moscow's aims. Then Russia too would have a Vietnam on her hands – but a far more dangerous Vietnam.

Before any Soviet enterprise was completed and Mao Tse-tung overthrown and replaced by a pro-Russian leader the south of China could free itself from the centralised communist power and seek help from the United States who are still represented in Asia on the island fortress of Formosa and by their troops in Vietnam.

Washington believes that this situation has a sobering effect on the political leadership of the Kremlin. But a sudden, far-reaching preventive measure could well be tempting to missile strategists in the Red Army. If China can reject Soviet tutelage with such obstinacy today when she has only a handful of atomic weapons and no highly developed strike force how will she behave in five to ten years time when she will have enough atomic potential to threaten the European parts of the Soviet Union as well?

Even in the age of long-range weapons the vastness of Russian territory is still as strategic a factor as in the time of Napoleon or Hitler. And it beat both these men.

But this doctrine is valid only for wars from the West. In the case of a war in the East the long distance can be a handicap that is difficult to overcome. Siberia is isolated, its population is still rather thin and can easily be cut off. It will take no more than a decade for China, an atomic power supported by an unlimited reserve of soldiers, to defy the Soviet Union militarily in the Far East.

Washington is therefore convinced that many Soviet generals consider a preventive war as the best security for the future. It is possible that some members of the Politburo are looking forward to the time when the Brezhnev doctrine practised in Czechoslovakia can also be subjected on Peking.

This assumption explains for instance why Richard Helmes, head of the CIA, the American intelligence agency, confided recently to four American journalists that he had received two reports from European Communist parties (one from Italy) stating that Moscow had put out feelers towards its sister parties to see what they would think of a preventive stroke by the Soviet Union against the Chinese atomic installations in Sinkiang.

This sort of report causes public alarm because the Americans would derive no profit from a war between China and the Soviet Union. A war could escalate overnight to affect other nations, including the United States.

But if Soviet measures led to a renewal of Sino-Russian collaboration under Russian leadership America would be forced on to the defensive and might well be prodded into bellicose action just to protect itself.

Less attractive is the prospect of reconciliation between the two Red giants. If the future saw a rebirth of the communist monolith America would immediately have to increase her security precautions in Europe and Asia, as well as on other continents. This new problem could not be mastered with the same means as in the fifties.

American policy

American policy is therefore to maintain the differences and rivalry between Moscow and Peking, though without exacerbating the situation. Washington will not take sides. If the United States supported the Soviet Union China could get her own back by starting new wars of liberation in South East Asia.

And to support Peking would neutralise all past efforts for detente and cooperation and leave a free field for those Soviet military leaders who are already making propaganda in the Kremlin for a preventive war against Mao Tse-tung.

Joachim Schwelien

(DIE ZEIT, 5 September 1969)

Ho Chi Minh – enigmatic revolutionary

ASIA WILL NOT BE THE SAME NOW HE IS DEAD

Frankfurter Neue Presse

His real name and his actual date of birth are known to nobody. But the world has felt the political dynamism and importance of a man it has known for two decades under the name of Ho Chi Minh, He Who Shines, a man who is now no longer with us.

This man has been a riddle to the West in the same way as his name and date of birth. Considerations as to whether the history of South East Asia would have taken a new course if relations with Ho Chi Minh had been better have led to no firm conclusions.

As early as his youth he was full of revolutionary ardour. He was not choosy about friends and allies and he would quickly change them when it seemed appropriate.

He was a Communist for almost fifty years and his constant political struggle was to liberate his country of all colonial rule. But he was capable of compromise – how far this was tactics must remain an open question.

Unfortunately Ho Chi Minh was not allowed the chance to answer this question at the decisive moment just after the Second World War. France made the same mistake that is often credited to him. She gave few concessions and they came too late. This has the end of any chance to Turn Ho Chi Minh from the path of revolution to one of compromise. He obtained with force what Paris refused him. But when he unfurled the Red Flag this was too much. At the Geneva Conference on Indo-China he was allowed control of only one half of Vietnam.

This did not solve the Vietnam problem but merely changed its nature. Again Ho Chi Minh saw himself in a situation demanding his resistance. The old revolutionary was once again forced into his familiar element. North Vietnam, separated from its food sources, the rice fields of the south, needed the strength of a statesman to maintain its viability.

Ho Chi Minh and the team around him must be praised for their efforts to industrialise the country. But what they achieved was too little and the Hanoi government was obviously not satisfied with the policy as such.

American intervention finally gave the North Vietnamese the welcome pretext to appeal to people's nationalism in order to further its aim of a united Vietnam under Hanoi's leadership.

It cannot be assumed that this aim will change with the death of Ho Chi Minh. It will never be known how much the ailing President influenced concrete policy decisions in the last few months. He did of course indicate the direction that policy was to follow, but others must have attended to individual details.

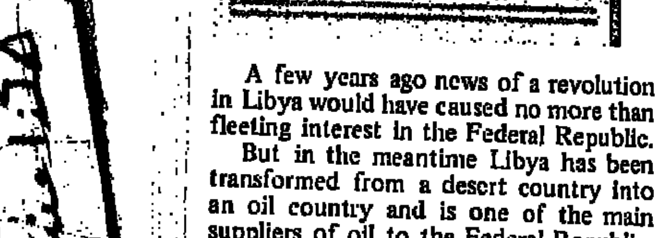
The ghost of Ho Chi Minh will often be conjured up but his effective authority is past. It no longer counts for anything in Moscow and Peking and Hanoi does not now know how far its independence will be respected in the centres of world communism.

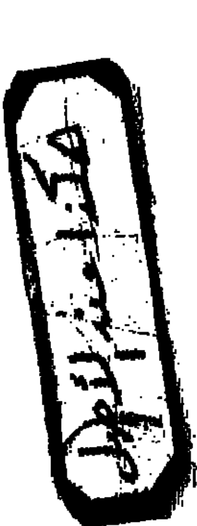
The grand old man of Vietnam tended to favour the Kremlin. But the Soviet Union is a long way away. Hanoi is right on China's doorstep. The way the cards are played will decide the fate of not only the Paris peace-talks but also South East Asia.

Hans Kraiker

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 4 September 1969)

Military coup in Libya deposed ageing King Idris





A few years ago news of a revolution in Libya would have caused no more than fleeting interest in the Federal Republic.

But in the meantime Libya has been transformed from a desert country into an oil country and is one of the main suppliers of oil to the Federal Republic. Gelsenkirchen Bergwerk has considerable oil concessions in Libya and its well-known blue petrol pumps have a direct link with the Islamic kingdom whose monarch, King Sayed Idris es Senussi, has just been deposed by revolutionary officers.

Since the Arab-Israeli War in June 1967 and the closing of the Suez Canal Libya's importance as an oil-supplier to Europe has increased still further. But the new wealth flowing from the desert has obviously not led to a stabilisation of political conditions there. Recently there have been intermittent reports about discontent at the way income from the oil-wells was administered. It was claimed that little was done to improve the standard of living for the population of the country.

But there could have been other motives causing the officers to proclaim a republic. King Idris had followed an independent policy in the Arab camp. He showed little enthusiasm for the joint struggle against Israel and kept a pro-Western course. He tolerated British and American bases in his country, a dreadful sin in the eyes of Arab nationalists. Libya was one of the few Arab countries that did not break off diplomatic relations with Bonn when the Felderal Republic recognised the existence of Israel as a state.

But the policies of the new leaders cannot be appraised at the moment. There are two clues. The officers' junta changed the name of the country to the Libyan Arab Republic which could point to a close relation with Arab nationalists.

The leaders of the revolution have emphasised the socialist character of their coup. It can only be hoped that this formula does not conceal a stop to concessions for foreign oil companies.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 2 September 1969)

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GOVERNMENT

The purpose of parliamentary reform

BY DR HANS APEL, BUNDESTAG MEMBER

Discussions about parliamentary reform in the Federal Republic are coming out into the open. Material improvements to work requirements of members of the Bundestag, such as the reform of individual spheres of operation in the Bundestag, are tending to be discussed insolated from the problems as a whole.

Parliamentary reform must be seen from the point of view of the Bundestag's duties. These tasks are above all legislation, control of bureaucracy, defence of civil rights and giving a fair hearing to public opinion.

Basic Law ascribes to the Bundestag as its main duty the formulation of laws. The numerical and intellectual superiority of the government has led to a situation where the initiative for the formulation of laws is largely exercised by the government.

Since bureaucrats at a consultant level in the ministries are already discussing bones of contention with representatives of many organisations, the Bundestag often finds itself left to handle less important details.

Only a vote of the plenum can finalise a legislative act, which is where the Bundestag takes a leading position in the role of a notary. But when it comes to actual political decisions and the choice between possible alternatives for solving problems on hand the Bundestag plays a minor role.

The point of parliamentary reform would not be to acquire legislative initiatives for the Bundestag. An extension of the auxiliary services and scientific departments of the Bundestag would not suffice to make parliament more qualified in this respect than the many ramifications of ministerial bureaucracy.

The opposition and individual members must have the opportunity to make better use than before of their right to take the initiative. The parliamentary majority is in a position to harness ministerial bureaucracy for its own aims thanks to its close connection with government.

It is vital that parliament takes up a definite position and points the way to the future in a more decisive manner before legislative measures really get under way. This can be achieved by plenary debates and by the political parties making a firm statement of intent.

SPD members of parliament want to go further and give the Bundestag the right to set up commissions of inquiry. These commissions would gather and



analyse the required material for political decisions. They would consist not only of specialists and also of ordinary politicians. They would have full rights to demand information from the authorities and from private citizens.

It must be important in connection with this that the parliamentary reform commission of the Bundestag has asked for lists of suggested consultants and advisers.

Parliament has another very important source of up to date information if experts are in audience at meetings to formulate legislation or take part in these meetings.

It is also an improtant function of these experts to ensure that public opinion is heard in the Bundestag. A change of standing orders should make it possible in future to let the experts argue and debate among themselves and to give members the right to contradict the experts' opinions as well as the right to ask questions.

Parliamentary sessions must not be completely open to the public eye. Only on special occasions should meetings be public, for instance. Only if they are protected to a certain extent from the glare of public opinion will members be able to hold pointed discussions and find workable compromises.

Officially the individual member only possesses one weapon to help control bureaucracy, namely question time. Attempts to limit the effectiveness of question time must therefore be rejected.

The petitions committee has an important part to play in safeguarding citizens' rights. Its spheres of activity are limited at present in that it is subject to the discretion of the government whether to give full support and advice to the committee or not.

Legislation must be enforced to the effect that this committee should receive any necessary information, except that which is covered by the Official Secrets Act.

Unfortunately debates in the Bundestag have not reached a definite conclusion on whether an ombudsman would improve the control of bureaucrats in this country as well. This system which originated in Sweden has been copied in many countries. It probes miscarriages of justice in government departments and gives recommendations for improvements.

An ombudsman would bring to light any flaws in the legislative system and could thus have a beneficial effect on the quality of the work carried out by parliament.

It is generally recognised that the modus operandi of parliamentary commissions must be improved. SPD members are pressing for the repeal of the government's right to refuse its employees permission to make reports to such a committee, since this tends to cripple the committee's powers.

Bundestag plenary debates must make party lines clear to citizens. In this respect the Bundestag's work is part of a perpetual election campaign. This function of plenary debates can not help but shackle member's demands for reform. Party spokesmen can not be limited too much. But this does not mean that the status quo must be maintained.

Political talks must be shorter, more concise and more essentially political. As the antagonist of the government the opposition must be given more space to spread its wings.

Strengthening the opposition's stand is the basic aim of parliamentary reform. Today's opposition is tomorrow's government. It is the watchdog over the government, and its political activities are decisive for the future of parliamentary democracy.

Parliamentary reform is a part of the required democratic reforms, and the Bundestag must consider all proposals for changes in parliament.

The measure of success of parliament's work is determined by the capabilities of political parties, the nature of published opinions, the stand the associations take, the political awareness of the man in the street and the personal and intellectual qualities of our politicians.

Future prospects for parliamentary democracy are more dependent on our manoeuvrability, which should give us the power to get rid of the effects of old reforms and patterns of thought which have outlived their usefulness and meet the challenges of our times.

It seems certain that our parliamentary democracy will complete this process of adjustment with less friction and more success than any other possible form of government could manage.

(Das Parlament, 30 August 1969)

Press freedom in the context of a democratic state

In the merry month of May people were still full of praise. Politicians, researchers and journalists from the Federal Republic were celebrating twenty years of Basic Law with public debates, speeches, commemorative meetings and commentaries.

Although the hymns of praise did not ring out so loud for some articles of the constitution as for others, and certain sections were put under the microscope and criticised, and in some places total revision was called for, the general verdict on Basic Law was that it had proved its worth.

It must be doubted whether some of these paeons of praise are completely genuine if it is remembered tha certain politicians are trying to effect a change to basic rights contained in Article 5.

This section is concerned with freedom of the press, freedom of television and radio news coverage and states that no cencorship will take place.

According to the Federal Constitutional Court these rights are essential in the statute book of any free and democratic country. But the question must be asked: is there not a rather large chasm between claims and the real situation?

Once again the television programme "Panorama" gave a great boost to the Christian Democrats and Christian Socialist (CDU/CSU).

Now is the time to get right to the heart of the matter. Prime Minister Helmut Lemke of Schleswig-Holstein is demanding a national watchdog committee. CDU leaders in the Federal states of Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg are all for setting up independent television companies.

This mixture of anger and the desire to give help and protection to publishers interested in television presumably has deeper roots than the short-term worry that unfavourable reports might lead to the loss of votes.

Is it really just a question of redressing the balance and keeping a sence of proportion? This is doubtful. The desire to control, restrict and correct shortcomings in radio and television is nothing new.

The top men in the "Panorama" team have always been out on a limb. Just a few months ago members of the North-Rhine Westphalia SPD and CDU parties state parliament bitterly attacked the coverage Westdeutscher Rundfunk gave to the extra-parliamentary opposition and made almost insulting claims.

Where will this lead to? The trend in political parties and other groups involved to try to sweep committed and critical journalism from public institutions is more marked than ever. This is ierreconcilable with Basic Law.

The most important points of this country's Basic Law come from the bad experiences in the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich. Freedom of the press became the strongest basic right politically in the statute. All other rights of liberty depend upon this fundamental right.

But once again it has not been fully recognised that such rights of liberty like all basic rights are fundamentally aimed against the state, coercion, chicanery and excessive power.

One of the main tasks of journalists is to exercise control, and be a kind of fourth power in the state, since the three state powers are often linked in a detrimental way.

The strongest weapon of the press, radio and television in the battle to secure liberty is their function of open control and criticism, granted to them by the Federal Constitutional Court. This is the basis of all discussions. People who want to make changes must reckon with the terms of Basic Law.

Nobody can deny seriously that there is a certain amount of risk attached to freedom of the press. However, no one would seriously maintain that it is necessary to run this risk.

In his book "The Constitutional Purpose of the Press", Martin Löffler, a lawyer, said: "If all risk were excluded the result would be a police state."

It is by no means exclusive to this country that people make provision with regard to freedom of the press nor is it typical of this country to bring the press into line and abuse it for propaganda purposes as the Nazis did.

Many Eastern European countries, Arab states and also some countries in Western Europe are excellent examples of how authoritarian regimes utilise mass media of communication.

It is remarkable, however, how in the Federal Republic, despite some bad experiences, there is a wide-spread aversion to publishing critical comment. The case of the Munich suffragant Bishop Defregger is typical of this. In his television interview his attitude towards the theme of the press was entirely denigrating. He said that certain sections of the press only aroused public emotion. Chairman of the Confederation of Federal Republic Trade Unions, Heinz O. Vetter, introduced a "muzzling" system for his co-workers and colleagues which prohibited interviews without prior reference to the press office. This system shows similar tendencies.

Democracy as a market for public opinions is taboo. For this reason the watch-word is control not censorship. Basically human beings are considered incapable of making their own judgments.

Worst of all are the conclusions which are being drawn from events which are worthy of discussion and debate, or the conclusions which people would like to draw from them.

The most dangerous tendency is to restrict liberty piecemeal. People must be wary of this.

Roderich Reifenrath

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 August 1969)

■ VIEWPOINT

President pleads for a 'new beginning between us and our Eastern neighbours'

The following is the text of President Gustav Heinemann's speech on the 30th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. The speech was broadcast throughout the country.

Thirty years ago 1 September 1939, marked the beginning of the gruesome drama we call the Second World War.

For weeks Germany and Poland had been arguing about Danzig and the Corridor between West and East Prussia. On 1 September 1939 Hitler announced in the Reichstag in Berlin that the Third German Reich was fighting for its rights and security. Guns had opened fire at 5.45 that morning.

His announcement was enthusiastically greeted by exultant members.

But in spite of the Hitler-Stalin Pact that had been signed a few days previously to mark out spheres of influence, and perhaps because of it, there was a marked feeling that the people of our country were being led into peril. People held their breath expectantly.

There is no need to trace the causes of the Second World War. They are known to everybody.

Ever since the twenties Hitler had said and written that he aimed to solve the Jewish problem and extend German dominion over Germany's Slavonic neighbours right into the heart of Russia. All his agitation and incitement served this end. Danzig and the Polish Corridor were only the beginnings of his policy of a Greater German Empire consisting of Germanic overlords ruling degenerate Slavs.

It is not worth speaking about the outcome of the war. But we must not forget that 55 million people all over the world lost their lives.

Even more people lost their homes as refugees. Seventeen million Germans from territory on the other side of the Oder and Neisse, as well as the rest of Eastern Europe, met with this fate.

The end to the consequences of the National Socialist adventure is still not in sight. How long are we to remain a people straddling the European dividing line between West and East? How long will Berlin remain a divided city? When will Europe be a peaceful Continent with its own role in the world? Today, thirty years after the beginning of the Second World War, there is still no answer to these and similar questions.

One thing is clear: none of these questions can be solved unless we are reconciled with our neighbours and gain new confidence in each other.

This has been achieved with our traditional enemy France. But with our Eastern neighbours, especially Poland, this task still awaits us.

Poland was the first victim of the 1939 invasion. Poland alone had a death toll of six million. Of this figure only 700,000 fell as soldiers, the other five million odd were victims of an arbitrary extermination.

Whatever the contribution of the Polish leaders to Hitler's decision in 1939, however hard the fate of our fellow-countrymen who lost their homes on the other side of the Oder and Neisse, nothing can disguise the fact that the present state of affairs between Poland and us cannot be allowed to continue as it is. Old wounds must be healed and nobody must open them again. The necessary provisions must be made for this.

Since the Second World War ended in 1945 there have been many wars in other parts of the world. Even today we hear the news and see the pictures of the misery they cause. When an end is put to the new bloodshed we still know little or nothing about why they began.

Is it not true that in the whole world and especially here scientific investigation into peace, its prerequisites including social and economic structures as well as psychological factors must form the basis for all basic research?

Until now the human intellect has had greatest success in investigating and mastering nature. This is the basis for the ever increasing population figures.

The real danger for human beings is no longer nature but Man himself. Man knows less about himself and his destructive capability than about nature that surrounds us. Less research has been made into conflict between nations and aggressive human impulses than into atomic research.

War is founded less in individual disposition as in the order and disorder of society and the community. In spite of the existence of profiteers its causes are of a political nature, not a private one.

Causes arise from customs, prejudices, social orders and forms of government. That is why we need to investigate the relationships. We need to do research on peace. For this reason we need new orders and customs, new rules and new modes of behaviour.

The United Nations Organisation is an essential part of the new order. The body must be strengthened after the failure of the earlier League of Nations. People must accustom themselves to the habit of looking at conflicts through the eyes of their opponents. One of the new rules must be a readiness for compromise. Self-assertion must at all costs be replaced with the determination to replace animosity handed down from generation to generation with a new beginning on both sides. The new mode of behaviour would include participation in the fear and the grief, in the pride and the sensitivity of the opponent.

War is not a law of nature but a result of human action. We must therefore investigate this action.

Peace too is not a law of nature. We have experienced that. Is it an illusion?

What do we want, what do we do, what is the goal of human life, how does a person arrange his life until war is over, again with us with its dead and dying? No one answer can be given to this question.

One answer can however be provided by anyone. We must strengthen those who pursue a convincing policy of peace and reject others who, in the guise of nationalism, are already preaching irreconcilability.

Albert Camus once said, "Perhaps we cannot prevent this creation from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children."

This is also valid for us. So, on the thirtieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War let us bear in mind two things:

We must make a new beginning between us and our Eastern neighbours, especially Poland.

We must show determination in combatting the scourge of new wars.

1 September 1939 – a day never to be forgotten

Anniversaries occur all the time in our fast-moving world. Often they are only fleeting memories that quickly fade.

But this cannot be said of 1 September 1969, the day on which we remember the start of the Second World War thirty years ago. Three decades have not robbed this day of its horror, for then began the madness of millions of deaths. The course of the war from the Blitzkrieg against Poland to victory and defeat is strewn with the bodies of fifty million war dead. This burden on our memory is not easy to shake off.

Scars have grown over the wounds and the war debris has been removed. But a feeling of unease that a catastrophe of this magnitude could happen again is present behind the facade of reconstruction.

Our era will not be remembered for peace, but for the dirty war in Vietnam, the holy, unholy conflict in the Near East, the bloody frontier dispute between China and the Soviet Union and the bloodshed in Biafra.

The thirtieth anniversary of the start of the Second World War with all its warnings not to let the catastrophe be repeated is commemorated in a world that is poised on the brink of the abyss.

The anniversary awakens other memories. We think of the legacy of a man who chased the illusion of a Greater German Empire and left behind the shambles of a destroyed German Reich and the division of what remained into two parts.

We are still sitting on the debris of the Second World War. No amount of effort has been able to make it shrink let alone remove it altogether.

The two and a half decades since our total defeat have seen an almost sure probability become a certainty. German territories beyond the Oder and the Neisse are lost and reunification of the two parts of Germany seems impossible in the foreseeable future.

The division between claim and action, between juristic fiction and political possibility is today wider than ever before. Reunification is improbable and winning back the Eastern territories has become an illusion.

People can of course have their doubts. That is the right of anyone who has lost home and property in the East. But there can be no doubt about the Russian presence on the Elbe. Barbed wire, watch-towers and minefields prove that. This part of Hitler's legacy kills any hopes of altering political realities created by the war.

The thirtieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War brings us to bitter realisations. And understanding is difficult.

It should not be difficult on the thirtieth anniversary of the outbreak of war to recognise the need for reconciliation with the Poles. The first day of September 1939 marked the invasion of Poland by Hitler's troops.

The main burden for us on this anniversary – because it came at the very beginning of the catastrophe – is the calamity of the Polish people. Six million Poles died on the field of battle or in concentration camps. They suffered the injustice of the Hitler-Stalin conspiracy. The fifth partition of Poland led to Russian possession of 80,000 square miles of Polish territory. If the thirtieth anniversary of the start of the war is not only to be a day to remember our own suffering and national hardship but also a day with the future in mind we should consider the necessity of a reconciliation with Poland.

Any attempt to this end is not made easier by Poland's demands for her frontiers to be recognised and guaranteed. But an improvement in the relationship between Poland and the Federal Republic is possible without consideration of the frontier question. We for our part are ready.

C. M. Lankau

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 31 August 1969)

Statistics that should warn us!

Exact figures are still not known today, thirty years afterwards, for the gruesome consequences of 1 September 1939.

But the measurable statistics must suffice to guard us survivors against illusions or fresh arrogance. More than 55 million people were killed and 35 million crippled.

The death figures include, twenty million Soviet citizens and six million Poles. Only 700,000 of the dead from these two countries were soldiers.

Germany's price for the "Final Victory" was seven million dead and seventeen million refugees. These figures make it difficult to ignore the facts and write history without careful sober reflection.

On the thirtieth anniversary of the invasion of Poland radio and television broadcast a speech by Federal President Gustav Heinemann, a man who lacks all pastoral pathos or demagogy.

President Heinemann appealed for reason. People should recognise indisputable facts. This qualified economist and jurist, to whom foresight is far more important than high-sounding words, soberly explained to his audience that the National Socialist adventure did not end on 8 May 1945. The actual bitter end of operation White has still to come.

The President came to two conclusions which should be obvious to every sensible citizen of this country. We must, he said, settle our relations with the East and at the same time combat the danger of a new war with all the strength that we can muster. "War is not a law of nature," the President added.

But he did not raise himself up like a schoolmaster over people who remembered their classical education and continued to think of war as the father of all things. He said that peace too was no law of nature.

President Heinemann countered the stereotyped formula that peace was illusion with an argument that conservatives in this country, in the East and the West cannot ignore. War is founded in Man and in the behaviour pattern of human society. President Heinemann concluded from that the first thing to do was brush aside dangerous habits and prejudices and alter social wrongs.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 September 1969)



■ HOME AFFAIRS

Penal code reforms became effective on 1 September

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Reforms in the penal law of the Federal Republic came into effect on 1 September. Although the sections changed are scattered throughout the penal code and do not form the basis for further reform, they do represent particularly important details of a comprehensive plan being given priority because of their urgency.

A second batch of new laws will be in force from 1 April 1970. The main part of the reform with all the basic changes will not appear until 1 October 1973.

These stages reflect the complexity of important issues in a constitutional state, the legislative difficulties in a democratic society split by views towards criminal law and the need to cling to old habits and institutions, to an antiquated criminal law and archaic punishment.

One thing must be realised. The penal code can be reformed only if modern methods are introduced for fighting crime and if punishment is finally standardised.

For this reason the extension of the Federal Crime Office is just as important for law reform as the Standardisation of Sentence Law which will be passed in 1973 after painstaking work by a commission of the Federal Ministry of Justice. The aim of all these changes is a decrease in crime figures.

Before looking at the individual changes in the law book it is profitable to consider the basic ideas behind the whole reform which the Bundestag has passed in two statutes.

In a weekly periodical for lawyers Herr Hohler used the formula "As little punishment as necessary, as much help as the penal code allows". The first part of his sentence is reflected in two partial reforms which took force over a year ago. The political law code was defined and pruned of antiquated regulations. Another law removed every day motoring offences from the sphere of criminal reprehensibility.

As before punishment is considered as a compensation for guilt. But punishment and the way it is carried out will in future be a chance and means to educate the offender and bring him back on to the path of righteousness.

When considering the various types of offender, the new task of the judge as foreseen by the legislature is as follows. An occasional offender will be warned in the hope that this will deter him from future criminal activities. Offenders who break the laws more often should have their criminal tendencies reduced and develop a mode of behaviour more compatible with the interests of society. The serious criminal should not needlessly be prevented from returning to society. But society must be protected from dangerous criminals.

But what are the new changes which have just come into effect? One of the most important is the extension of probationary periods. Shorter prison sentences of up to six months will not be so common and will, for the most part, be replaced by fines. This section is valid for the transition period until 1 April 1970 when the new law on probation comes into force. Then all goal sentences and penal servitude will be commuted to what is termed imprisonment. All sentences of up to five years will be termed goal sentences. Sentences of four years penal servitude can no longer be passed up to 1 April 1970.

Blasphemy is no longer an offence as God does not need the protection of secular authorities. Paragraph 166, dealing with the punishment of offences of public intolerance, is extended. Now disturbances at funeral ceremonies and at church-services of any creed are included.

In future indecent behaviour will be punished only when protected interests are injured and there is no other means of preserving the legal peace. Homosexuality therefore is now no longer an offence. It is punishable only if one of the partners is a minor or a dependant. Male prostitution is still illegal.

Kidnapping and abduction is punishable only when the victims are under eighteen years old. The excessive punishment for abortion, introduced in 1943, is now invalid. Adultery, sodomy and obtaining extra-marital intercourse illegally now disappear from the penal code because there is no longer any need to punish these relatively insignificant offences.

The antiquated section on duelling is rendered invalid and the possession of poaching traps and tools to aid entry and theft and is no longer illegal.

This synopsis is by no means complete. The legislature has done more than delete paragraphs. New laws have been introduced and old ones modernised as technical progress demands.

Hanno Kühnert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 30 August 1969)

Minority groups will benefit from changes

The introduction of the first part of the new law reform will probably be noticed only by a limited section of the public who will greet its arrival with joy. These are the people affected by the changes.

Primarily this section consists of traffic offenders who will now need to fear short prison sentences only in a few exceptional cases.

But there is also a group which cannot be so secure in its belief that the majority of the population will show the same tolerance as the law. This group consists mainly of homosexuals, adulterers and people who are sexually abnormal but harmless. They will all now escape punishment.

Anybody could be a drunken driver. The sentence is passed, the punishment accepted and the offender is once again accepted into the normal ranks of society. But a homosexual is always considered an outsider because he is different. Fewer people are willing to forgive a homosexual his tendencies in spite of their social harmlessness than they are a traffic offender for his homicidal lunacy.

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

In the long run law reform will be a yardstick which will measure whether Basic Law has had any effect on the public consciousness in this country and whether humanity and reason can maintain themselves in the face of prejudice.

The hope for this is political. Right-wing propagandists for law and order have already made law reform into an issue for their election campaign by branding it a symptom of the mood of softness which is affecting this country. Playing with the public's fear of crime has always been a favourite means for putting authoritarian measures of the statute book.

(DIE WELT, 30 August 1969)

New school for civil servants

In this country complaints about bureaucracy are always the same. It does not run smoothly. It wastes money. It is inflexible and works according to mediaeval principles. It does not inspire responsibility.

Every administration has the same weakness. Anybody who belongs to it must be able to adapt himself to it and become a part of it. If a person refuses he is no longer wanted and stands no chance of promotion.

This pitiable state of affairs should be improved by the opening recently in Bonn of an academy of administration that will give training for the higher ranks of service and lead to an increase in civil servants' efficiency.

For a long time people in this country have cast envious glances across to France where the Grandes Ecoles and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration provide the centralised, highly qualified bureaucracy with new brains. International organisations often show up the difference between the versatile French civil servant and his rather dull counterpart from this country.

If the new academy plans to promote and strengthen individual responsibility and spontaneity this is a public admission that past policy has been a mistake. This statement can be further expanded. The lack of the qualities mentioned is not specifically confined to civil servants. It is a German sickness.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 August 1969)

Hesse Prime Minister Zinn's surprise resignation

LAST MAN IN OFFICE WHO WAS FOUNDER OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE

Georg August Zinn's resignation from his position as Prime Minister of the Federal state of Hesse finally closes the post-war epoch for the states.

Georg August Zinn was the last man in office who helped build a new democratic state from the debris of 1945. In 1945 he became Minister Of Justice in the state of Hesse and for the last nineteen years he has headed the state government.

Hesse was created by the occupying powers. Under his administration it became a modern, efficient state which could in many features serve as a model for other states.

Georg August Zinn is 68. But his resignation came as a bolt from the blue. He resigned not because others in his party forced him to but because he realised that the forthcoming elections and next year's state election might affect his health.

In Hesse Zinn is the almost well-known politician and probably the most popular. This his part, the Social Democrats (SPD), has found out in many an election.

Although the party made many socialist demands and many left-wing ideals were written into the constitution for Hesse they were ignored by Zinn, a man who had renounced Karl Marx and his teachings long before the memorable party congress at Bad Godesberg. He let them stand in the constitution because he claimed that they could not exist in reality.

Zinn was a realistic politician and his reform policy brought him great success and this was particularly important for the SPD who had to play second fiddle in the Federal government for seventeen years.



Georg August Zinn
(Photo: Archiv/Bundesbildstelle)

Georg August Zinn governed like Wilhelm Kopf in Lower Saxony, Max Brauer in Hamburg and Wilhelm Kaisen in Bremen. These men formed their own versions of social democratic policies and their stubbornness did not always make the life of the party leadership in Bonn any easier.

As head of Hesse Zinn was feared in Bonn. He saw himself as protector of the Federal system. Although an affable man he became unrelenting when he saw the sovereignty of his or another Federal state impinged upon.

His favourite subject is constitutional law. An whenever he saw that the laws proposed by the Federal government would encroach on the individual states' rights he immediately took his case to the constitutional court.

It is still difficult to imagine Hesse without this far-sighted man who gave the people of the state their own national day to create a sense of identity. Another brainwave of his was the Great Hesse Plan to give a preview of the next ten years. This was indeed a step into the future.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 August 1969)

■ THINGS SEEN

Collection of erotic art shown at Hamburg's Kunsthaus

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Hamburg *Kunsthaus's* current exhibition promises to be a great financial success. The first few days attracted more visitors— on average a thousand daily— to the otherwise little patronised gallery than any other exhibition has ever done. And as entry to the exhibition costs three Marks (a little above normal admission charges) and the current showing runs until the beginning of October the total ought to mount up.

Even more unusual for an art exhibition, it almost became a political issue. Social Democrats in Hamburg wanted the exhibition postponed until after the Federal elections so that right-wing elements could make no propaganda against the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the leading party in the city. But Carsten Lucas, the young director of the exhibition, did not follow their recommendations.

The All-German Youth Group, a conservative body based in Elmshorn near Hamburg, printed a broadsheet calling on the citizens of Hamburg to press as many charges as possible against the organisers of the exhibition. But their request went unheeded. The Hamburg Public Prosecutor's Office stated that they had received no private summonses.

The opening speeches, including one by Arts Senator Kramer, called the exhibition informative and not provocative. This seems to have encouraged patrons of the fine arts in Hamburg, or at least those who are over eighteen years old and allowed entry. In cases of doubt identity cards have to be shown.

But perhaps people are already reaching for their pens. The next few days will show how enthusiastic the Hamburg public is. Up to now Carsten Lucas has received only one letter. An unknown woman requested that the director of the exhibition should be castrated. But the envelope bore a Zürich postmark.

The exhibition is a small part of a collection of erotic art collected by a married couple from Sweden, Eberhard and Phyllis Kronhausen, both qualified psychologists.

On show in Sweden

Selections of the works enthusiastically collected by the couple have also been seen in Lund, Aarhus and Stockholm. The Kronhausen collection comprises almost 2,500 works. Six hundred examples have been sent to Hamburg, though not all are being exhibited.

The main reason for this is the shortage of space in the relatively small exhibition rooms. But the works have also been censored. The organisers of the exhibition asked the Hamburg cultural authorities to nominate two judges. The two men appointed, Dr F. L. Bayerthal and Dr Peter Gorsen, examined the works to see if they could be considered to have artistic merit.

What was passed as art and managed to fit in the available space can now be seen, 247 exhibits in all. If a summons arrives a court will then have to decide if they are indeed art.

Article Five of Basic Law guarantees freedom of the arts. On proviso is made, Obscene drawings and paintings may not be exhibited in places accessible to the general public.

Are they works of art? The answer must be yes, even if they are not the best examples. Aesthetically speaking, Swedish exhibits are in the lower quality range. The exhibition shows that other countries also have their pop art and *naive painting*. And art critics are offered nothing new in the other contributions from modern painters such as Rops, Grosz, Masson, and Bellmer.

The only exhibits that leave behind a surprising artistic impression are some old Japanese scrolls which are so narrow that they can show only the part of the body most important in erotic art. Everything else is out of the picture.

The frankness and honesty of these paintings must prejudice people in their favour. In contrast to allegedly artistic nude photography the main point of the picture is not disguised or obscured but shown clearly and distinctly for what it is. But when only genitalia are depicted the picture is more difficult to decipher than most abstract paintings. It is then a puzzle to be solved by eroticists. This was something new and is hard to imagine in Western art.

Art from India, China and Japan

Two thirds of the exhibits come from India, China and Japan. But most of the Asiatic work was produced in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and does not figure among masterpieces of the history of Oriental art.

This sort of aesthetic consideration does not seem relevant to this exhibition though this does not mean that the exhibits are not works of art. Taken as a whole they are works of art. But in the history of art an imitator of Hokusai remains an imitator of Hokusai even if he did draw a penis in place of Mount Fujiyama.

An analysis of the exhibition's content would soon become a sexual treatise. A study of forms of sexual behaviour could easily be made using the available material. But there are already treatises on this theme and there have long been books which show similar works of art. Any commentary of this exhibition cannot be criticisms of art nor discussions about sex but simply comments on the fact that this exhibition has taken place at all.

It is a long time since artists were tortured or thrown into prison for painting pictures with an erotic theme. Kinsey and Giese do not receive today the same prison sentence as sexologist Magnus Hirschfeld who in 1903 distributed questionnaires to Berlin students and workers about their sex life.

The reaction to the first news about the exhibition shows that the ideal of a supposedly pure, clean art is still widespread. And so it was at one time. Under Hitler art became so pure and chaste that it may have consoled quite a few of the murderers at Auschwitz.

Hankering for pure art

We still have this sort of art. Aug. citizens have never destroyed, for instance, the granite sculptures in Oslo's Frogner Park that depict women as breeding cattle. But it happens all the time with abstract art. People still have a hankering after pure art. It is not a phenomenon exclusive to dictators or Germany.

But can the exhibition in Hamburg clear up public misunderstanding? The exhibits cannot be discussed from Herbert Marcuse's point of view. He said that it was not the picture of a naked woman showing her pubic hairs that was obscene but a picture of a general in all his glad rags parading the medals won in a war of aggression. This only shows its limitations. What is being shown at Hamburg is no more than Eduard Fuchs collected in his standard works on the history of civilisation and culture — and that was half a century ago.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 August 1969)

Roman bronzes found in Bavaria on exhibition in Augsburg

Augsburg, as the Roman Augusta Vindelicorum, capital of a rich imperial province, can now offer the visitor an exhibition unique in this country.

Until 23 November Roman bronzes found in Bavaria are being exhibited in the former Dominican church which for the last three years has been the Roman Museum of the town's art collection. The field has been limited to this one feature of Roman art so that a complete survey can be made of Bavaria.

The bronze statuettes belonged to large estate owners and merchants in the Roman towns of Augsburg, Regensburg and Kempten. The larger religious statues were worshipped in religious centres such as Kempten.

Statues of emperors on horseback were normally placed in the middle of market-places or in the citadel.

But in the Middle Ages, when Roman rule was long past, most of the large statues were destroyed and melted down. Few have been preserved.

But there are many statuettes still in existence, mainly images of Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, Minerva and Venus used for votive offerings. This is proof that the Romans did worship their gods.

The other exhibits are everyday utensils, bronze furniture or furniture with bronze knobs or friezes, crockery and cutlery as well as helmets and richly decorated weapons.

One of the main exhibits is the head of a horse found exactly 200 years ago on the banks of the Wertach near Augsburg.

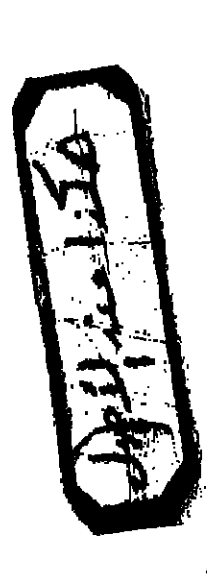
The city of Augsburg is appropriate as the site of this exhibition not only because of its Roman past. It has a long and famous tradition for the bronze produced there.

Among the masterpieces of European bronzework are the Early Romanesque portals of the cathedral, the tomb of Bishop Wolfhart von Rot (d. 1302), the tracery retable of 1447, the fountains of Hubert Gerhard and Adriaen de Vries and the sculptures of Hans Reichle and Georg Petel.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 August 1969)



A Minera from Putzmühle (above) approximately 6 inches tall and a Mercury (right), just a little taller found at Regensburg. (Photos: Katalog)



■ THE ARTS

Theatre exhibition to be sent abroad



This country's theatre goes abroad on publicity tours from November. Munich's Goethe Society has continued to fulfil its role of promoting German Language and culture with a new exhibition: Theatre on German-speaking Stages.

Its material is largely photographic and has been selected by Zurich stage-designer Roman Clemens with captions by Stuttgart dramatic historian and critic Siegfried Melchinger. The exhibition will first be held in Nuremberg's Kunsthalle and then move on to Athens.

This venture is an attempt to bring living theatre in the German language to the attention of the world. It has 200 photographs taken by Ilse Buhs, Wolfgang Chargesheimer, Rosemarie Clausen and Robert Koester and others. In addition there are numerous portrait photos of famous producers and directors, some figurines and masks.

The impressions as a whole are arranged under slogans. Information about manifold trends does tend to blur the visual effect of single items.

Precedence is given to the present-day theatre. An example of this can be seen just inside the entrance. Jürgen Rose's figurines for Heiner Müller's *Philoktet* are a little out of place, however, at the entrance of the room exhibiting Classical German drama — Faust. An even here there is a sample of Walpurgis Night sorcery (by Teo Otto and Gustaf Gründgens) right next to illustrations to Konrad Swinarski's Berlin production of *Marat Sade*.

Exhibits on modern drama and the political theatre follow immediately, with Peter Handke, Friedrich Dürrenmatt's *The Physicists* and Max Frisch's *Don Juan*, Günter Grass' *Plebejer* (The Rising of the workers), Rolf Hochhuth's *The Representative* and *Soldiers*.

Criticism with aggression, protest and discussion have been the strongest points in recent years in the German-speaking theatre and all are brought out clearly by this exhibition.

One criticism of the exhibition is that origins of much of the material are not discussed in great detail. There are exhibits for the late period of Erwin Piscator's productions, but unfortunately none from his early period.

On the other hand, photos from early Samuel Beckett and Carl Zuckmayer plays are to be seen in the same room and also pictures from the works of so-called modernists of the past, such as Carl Sternheim and Frank Wedekind.

Grouping at the exhibition smacks of more or less interchangeable impressions. One section is "Classics in the Present Day" with Kurt Hübner's Bremen production of *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* together with Heinrich Koch's Frankfurt presentation of Kleist's *Penthesilea*. Two others sections are Classical Abstraction and Modern Antiquity.

References to Brecht's approach to the Epic theatre are in alienating proximity to Oskar Schlemmer's mechanical models.

In the "Figures from the Twenties" section Heinz Rühmann takes precedence over Tilla Durieux and Heinrich George.

Apart from the excellent information in the catalogue visual aids to an understanding of the everyday theatre, which is highly subsidised and which, in its manifold activities tends to fritter away this money, are all too few and far between.

One photo each of musical, opera and drama soirees in Heidelberg, and those photos seemingly chosen at random, is insufficient to give a fair impression of dramatic life in the Federal Republic.

And a lack of any pictures of Heidelberg Castle and Bremen's Hansa Facades is to be regretted, since they are certainly tourist attractions.

The chance to juxtapose events from life and contemporary play themes has been overlooked. Political topicality and its representation in drama have not been opposed and constrasted.

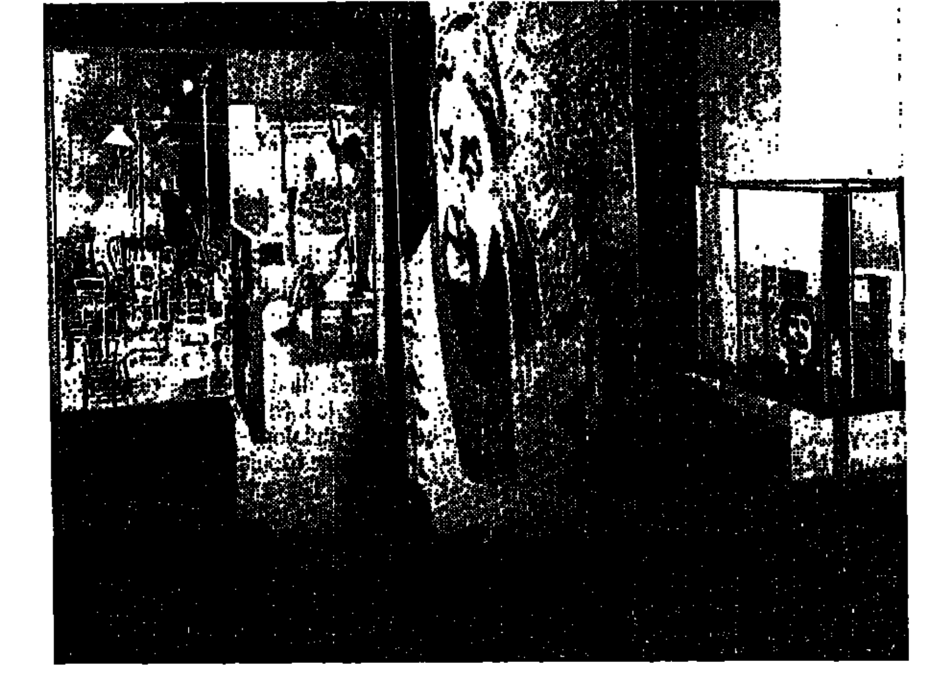
Great emphasis has been placed on the twenties. Only Zurich theatre is recalled for the years 1933-45. Once again theatrical activities during the Third Reich have been avoided and the chance has been lost to contrast the many facets of the theatre in democratic times and the deformed and abused theatre during the dictator's reign.

Bayreuth, Recklinghausen and Bad Hersfeld, the scenes of drama festivals, have not been forgotten. Comparatively speaking they have been given adequate coverage.

One or two sidelines are of greater interest. For instance models of modern theatre buildings (Ingolstadt and Ulm) and older buildings of historical interest, particularly Piscator's staging of *Die Räuber* on the Mannheim Arena stage in 1957 and the reconstruction of the stage for Mannheim's premiere of Schiller's *Die Räuber* 175 years previously are of great interest.

Dietmar N. Schmidt

(DIE WELT, 26 August 1969)



Part of the exhibition dealing with German language theatre

(Photo: Wilhelm Weihert)

Cross section of Paul Klee's work at Essen

WORKS CONTRIBUTED BY ARTIST'S SON

As Ludwig Grote said, it is no use trying to understand Paul Klee from a few isolated works. So the Folkwang Museum in Essen has compiled a collection of water-colours and drawings from all stages of Klee's artistic creation.

In all there are 83 water-colours and 83 drawings giving a fair cross section of the incredible 13,000 works that Klee produced in his lifetime.

Klee often preferred the delicate and telling sketch to the grand tableau. His son Felix, who now lives in Berne, said in an interview that his father's sketches and drawings were in effect the A to Z of his whole work.

Exhibitions of this kind, which need insurance cover of as much as seven million Marks, will be less common in future. Private collectors are growing more wary of lending their art treasures and without the generous support of Felix Klee this exhibition would not have been possible.

Three quarters of the sum total of paintings and drawings on show come from Felix Klee's collection. The others come from European collections, particularly the North Rhine Westphalian art collection in Düsseldorf and the Paul Klee Foundation in Berne.

Many of the works have not been on public show before, many are almost unknown, and they shed new light on the artist and make new comparative studies possible.

The 166 works are arranged along the walls and in showcases in chronological order. The very first is a highly precise and realistic lake and mountain landscape, painted by Klee as a sixteen-year-old schoolboy.

Several works from Klee's family life in the early years of this century are firmly rooted in the concrete world.

One of the most beautiful works from this period is *High Water on the Isar* (1910). There are some works representative of the austere style he adopted after his journey to Tunisia.

An Autumn Place (1921) shows a search for a clearer mode of expression. Klee said that he was no longer trying to reproduce what was to be seen, but to bring into focus what could not be seen clearly.

As an artist Klee always had his eyes wide open and was receptive to any stimulus from outside. Hence the richness of formal structure which he subjected to his formal temperament.

This also explains why so many divergent themes run parallel in paintings which are almost contemporary.

The geometrically dominated *Three Towers* (1923), belonging to his most important works during his time as lecturer at the Bauhaus in Weimar and Dessau, are reminiscent of Lyonel Feininger.

Perspective with an Open Door (1923) was created as an answer to Chirico's metaphysical painting. *The Exit Discovered* and *Couple Caught Unawares* (1935) make up the Giacometti group.

His experience on the North Sea islands is reproduced in concrete and abstract works in 1923. These were blissful years, in which the artist created such perfect pictures as *Lions — Just Look!* and *The Garden of Birds* (at 200,000 Marks his most highly valued water-colour).

From 1927-28 we can see the little-known *Waterfall*, *Lagunenstadt* and *Minor Emergency at Sea*.

Following on come the most important works, starting with *Docile Grandfather* (1930).

The exhibition shows that this artist who was so recipient of outside stimuli and worked on them with the full range of this century's formal variation, himself gave out stimuli.

His pupil Fritz Winter developed from Klee's *The Stirring of Growth* (1938), and later Tachism (abstract expressionism) of German stamp developed from his *Barbarian's Head* (1940).

The exhibition will continue until 12 October 1969.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 26 August 1969)

A Paul Klee study done in 1913

(Photo: Katalog)

EDUCATION

Students' suicidal tendencies confirmed

LOVE CONFLICT THE MOST RECURRENT CAUSE

When a student commits suicide his university rarely hears of it. Occasionally a cryptic note is sent to the university stating that one of its students has died. The usual procedure is to register those students who do not return at the beginning of a semester. They are then immediately removed from the lists. Eberhard Lungershausen is a West Berlin lecturer who works at the Free University's clinic for nervous diseases. He has taken the time and trouble to draw on his own experience and provide exact scientific data on a subject that is still treated as a matter of supposition and conjecture even by medical journals.

Vague statements have now been confirmed. Of all population groups students are most susceptible to suicide and mental troubles.

Eberhard Lungershausen recorded his results in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. At the state CID in Düsseldorf he examined the 44,000 cases of suicide and attempted suicide between 1958 and 1965 to find those committed by students. He looked through the files of the police and the public prosecutor, found out the place and subject and weighed up any comments on psychiatric treatment he discovered.

His results are valid for the whole of the Federal Republic. At a symposium in Berlin on students' psychiatric troubles (the various lectures have just appeared in book form edited by Horst-Ulfert Ziolko) Klaus Thomas confirmed his findings by reporting from his own experience on 541 desperate students. Of this number 231 were treated in Berlin by doctors specialising in the care of would-be suicides.

In the time span he was dealing with Eberhard Lungershausen found 107 cases of suicide and 89 of attempted suicide. On average thirteen students a year commit suicide and a further eleven try to kill themselves. As every suicide in this country must be registered this figure is substantially accurate.

But police learn of attempted suicide only by chance. The actual number is therefore much higher. Lungershausen estimates the figure to be ten times as high, reaching 110 or 120 cases a year.

These results correspond to the facts already ascertained about students being more susceptible to conflict. Suicide as the most brutal expression of a disturbed state of existence is more valid here than anywhere else. Munich psychologist Philip Lersch wrote, "The more varied and widespread the aspirations of a person are, the greater is the danger of an inner conflict which always represents a considerable loss of energy and disturbs the unity of conduct and existence."

Scientists have found that students are often people unsuited for life. They go to university to postpone entry into practical life.

The higher suicide rate for male students is no surprise. While the rate for male students is 32 per cent more than the figures for all the population, female students are more than doubly prone to suicide than girls in their age group who do not study. It is well known that female students more often become sick, go to advice centres or break off their course of study. Another investigation showed that women are unable to persevere in their role of student as well as men.

The dualism of their aims of life causes conflict. One side of them wants to attend to the biological function and raise a family, the other half wants to apply itself to study and the intellectual world and eventually make a career out of it.

The most striking result came when the individual courses of study were investigated. Students of philosophy, theology, philology and psychology were most prone to suicide, followed by science students. There was less tendency among students of medicine, law, economics and sociology. The least endangered were engineers. The largest proportion of students who give up their studies is also on the arts side.

Lungershausen gives two explanations for these findings. Some faculties attract unstable students. Study of certain subjects makes students unstable. Philosophers and scientists are, according to observations made, primarily persons who tend towards abstract thought, introversion and sensitivity. Lawyers and medical students are practical people, firmly rooted in life who enjoy meeting people and adapt themselves to any situation.

When motives were investigated no single one was found. There was always a whole range of reasons. As the main cause of suicide Lungershausen diagnosed endogenous psychoses which include mental illnesses like schizophrenia and depression. Forty per cent of suicides are caused by these psychoses.

The most important cause for attempted suicide was a love conflict. This was the main factor in thirty per cent of male students and 61 per cent of females.

Attempted suicide was long the private domain of women. They were not usually victims of a death-wish but felt their relations with their fellow man strained and wanted to improve them. Lungershausen quotes another investigator as saying that most attempted suicides can be explained in this way. Women, the author said, often use their bodies in the struggle between the sexes. Comparative figures from the United States show the same tendencies.

Thomas too discovered that seventy per cent of his women patients suffered from serious sexual problems. Almost all the 42 married students had an unhappy marriage. Many of Thomas' patients had ecclesiogenic neuroses. These are conflicts resulting from feelings of guilt caused by a moralising religious education. Even though the patient might have rejected what he learnt the feeling of guilt still remains.

But Lungershausen warns people not to believe that all suicide attempts are mere demonstrative gestures, a mere playing at death. According to his findings only seventeen per cent of male suicide attempts are demonstrative. The female figure is 23 per cent. In almost half the cases the would-be suicide hinted at his or her future course of action.

Difficulties in study were the second most important cause for both male and female suicides (fifteen per cent). The immediate stimulus in the case of male students was failure in an examination rather than unsatisfactory study. With female students failing examinations was less important than an unsuccessful course of study. After the sixth semester there is a distinct tendency for suicide figures to rise. The most dangerous age is 28 or 29.

Male students are more deeply affected by failure than their female colleagues. Women can easily reverse their decision to study and devote themselves to their biological role. A sense of failure does not occur with them all that often.

For male students failure is a downward step socially. It leads to a serious crisis of self-identity especially as there is such a great distinction between academics and non-academics in this country.

Female students are spared this. They are saved from social downfall by marriage and the social position of their parents. They can easily disguise their unsuccessful study as further steps in a general education.

It is striking how often students who commit suicide come from upper class backgrounds, particularly from academic circles. Forty per cent of all students are



from the upper classes. But they commit 49 per cent of all suicides and 57 per cent of all the attempts.

As in Britain and the United States the number of students from upper class backgrounds who give up their studies is particularly high. It can only be assumed that a lot of them went to university not because they wanted to but for reasons of prestige.

Eberhard Lungershausen recommends two solutions. Firstly, psychiatrists should give students the courses of treatment they need. Secondly, the university itself should take more care of its students' mental and spiritual development. This plea will probably remain unheeded. The appendix of Ziolko's book gives some useful information about advisory boards at universities in this country.

(DIE WELT, 27 August 1969)

Moderate students' organisation survives

RADICAL BEHAVIOUR TO ATTRACT ATTENTION

"Active, political and liberal!" was the election slogan of the Free Democratic University Association (FHV) at the University of Bochum. This moderate student group became known after its meteoric rise last year. Formed only a few weeks before the elections to the students' parliament, the FHV immediately attracted twenty per cent of the votes to become the second strongest party after the Social Democratic University League (SHB).

The success of this moderate students' association is all the more remarkable because press, radio and television have always spotlighted the radicals. Does it take sit-ins, punch-ups, broken window panes and a striptease in a courtoom to attract the attention of the public and politicians in our society? Do we react only to sensationalism and ignore the hard struggle for reforms continually being waged by moderate students?

It seems easy to answer this question when we look at the results of an investigation carried out at American universities which concluded that it was not the most intelligent students who won but the loudest and most voluble.

The demands of moderates are often not heeded because they are too realistic. They could easily be put into operation if it were not for the opposition of radical groups to gradual reform. They demand instead total revolution.

The more radical they behave the more chance there is of gaining a hearing. The position of moderates therefore deteriorates. The election of the Rector of Cologne University was marred by fighting which broke out when left-wing students tried to prevent the elected moderate student representatives from taking their seats at a session of the Senate.

But that is only half the truth. The other half is that moderate students are only rarely active. They attend lectures and seminars and do their work without branching out into political activity. Even though their diligence is to be praised it is dangerous for the leaders of tomorrow's world not to commit themselves to political action or discussion today. They might one day be submerged by the course of events.



Their inactivity is also shown in university politics. Moderates rarely take up their chance to cooperate in self-administration. Radicals see the various boards and committees— parliament, faculty, senate and special commissions— as a jumping-off board for their own ideas. They want to occupy as many of these positions as possible even though few constructive results are achieved. Instead they debate endlessly about the validity of a parliament and prevent any positive work. This happened for example at the University of Bochum.

A further barrier to political involvement is the intensive course of study. The time lost as an official of the Students' Union— six months or a year— cannot be justified financially. Even when this worry is not present it is always more convenient to avoid entering into any political commitments.

When the present situation of moderate students is examined it is astounding to see the isolation of these students from bodies and organisations interested in supporting and financing them.

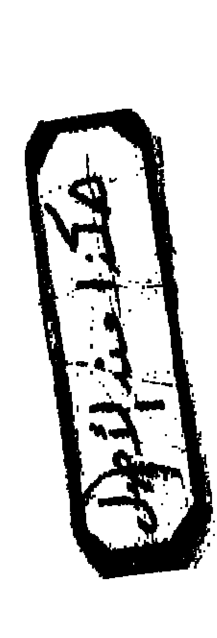
This can be seen in the case of the FHV, which has close links with the Free Democrats. For the first time in this country a university student group proposed the establishment of a body comprising professors, lecturers, university employees and students so that every member of the university could air his grievances in personal talks and find out the grievances of others.

But this idea was attacked by left-wing students. They suspected that lecturers would try to influence students. The students themselves they accused of being collaborators and rightists under the thumb of the professors.

Very few liberal professors and lecturers have joined the FHV. This is because of the widespread belief that any lecturer who professes to be a liberal will find his career endangered at a left-wing or a right-wing university.

The greatest hindrance to full development is the financial problem. The FHV does not receive a state grant or subsidy as these only go to national student groups represented at several universities all over the country. The result is that students who are in opposition to the state and wish to destroy the whole system are often financed in their endeavours by the state itself.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 August 1969)



ZOOLOGY

The puzzle of Man the exterminator

MASS EXTINCTIONS FROM NATURAL CAUSES

One of the most mysterious phenomena of the Earth's past is the wholesale extermination of the larger animal groups at the dawn of the new age.

Fifty million years ago, as the cretaceous system gave way to the tertiary, dinosaurs suddenly disappeared. They and the ammonites had dominated all continents in hundreds of forms and had left their imprint on the fauna of our planet.

A gigantic natural catastrophe can be ruled out as the cause of the extinction of whole zoological groups as it would also have decimated all other creatures on the Earth. Apart from in a few of the smaller, less important groups, geological strata show no traces of powerful upheavals in the development of the animal world. The one case of mass extinction in the thousands of millions of years that our planet has existed becomes even more puzzling.

Paleontologists, zoologists and geologists have been racking their brains for a century. The extinction is not only a phenomenon in the history of the Earth but also a warning that biological development of higher life, Man included, can be affected by widespread crises.

Until recently there was only one piece of evidence for the supposition that dinosaurs and ammonites were already suffering disturbances in development shortly before the end of the cretaceous period. Ammonites appear with abnormally-sized armour plated shells that are completely inappropriate for any physiological purpose. These creatures are resurrections of primitive forms from the original evolution hundreds of millions of years previously.

This phenomenon can be compared with what happens when a certain age or period in history exhausts its creative power. Artistic styles lose their power and try to maintain themselves with excesses or loans from the past.

A process of this sort in inconceivable in biological evolution. It is extremely doubtful if it played a role in the extinction of the dinosaurs at the end of the cretaceous period.

Other hypotheses have been made to explain the decline. They range from changes in climate or atmosphere to extermination by biological competitors like the mammals or mutation caused by cosmic radiation. All these suppositions are possible theories as long as no firm palaeontological or geological evidence can be found to explain the events at the end of the cretaceous period.

A recent discovery may help to solve the problem. Professor H.K. Erben of the palaeontology department of Bonn University reported to the Palaeontologists' Association Congress at Kiel that he had found dinosaurs' eggs that showed signs of disease. The eggs were laid towards the end of the cretaceous period when the dinosaurs were about to die out.

Professor Erben's investigations are based on eggshells found ten years ago in Provence. The late cretaceous rock at the site contains egg fragments of nine types of dinosaur, mainly the smaller varieties. The site seems to have been a popular laying place for a long time, perhaps for millions of years.

The original discoverers saw that the shells were very thick and had more than one layer. Professor Erben was able to show with the aid of an electron microscope that the multilayered shells consisted of new growth on the original egg. In some cases the eggs had seven layers of shell. The same phenomenon can sometimes be observed today with poultry.

The female dinosaurs that laid the eggs must have had their health affected by the excessive calcium expended in producing the shells. The level of calcium in the blood would have sunk, vitamin D production would have increased and teeth and bones would have suffered from a lack of calcium.

The consequenees were even more critical for embryos in the egg. The excess calcium blocked up the pores of the original shell and prevented respiration. The thickness of the shell must either have made any movement difficult or prevented it altogether.

These conditions must have led very quickly to a decline in numbers or, in somes types of dinosaur, complete extinction. There is no information about the extent of these phenomena in the dinosaurs of the Provence. But as all nine types living there were affected the total must have been high. This also suggests that the extinction of the dinosaurs was closely linked with their malformed eggs.

Patholigical changes in the wall of the eggshell were of course caused by something and it is here that the mystery is solved. Veterinary medicine traces double shelled eggs in chickens back to situations of stress. The pituitary gland of the affected birds influences bodily processes unfavourably.

Stress factors can result from a variety of reasons including shock, environmental difficulties and disease. Professor Erben considers genetic deterioration of the eggshell-forming processes to be a valid possibility. The cause would probably be mutation caused by a temporary increase in cosmic radiation.

When tricky points like this are discussed scientific disputes begin once again. Only a corner of the veil of mystery is raised.

But this does not alter the importance of the discovery of dinosaur eggshells showing patholigical changes. It shows that the mass extinction at the end of the cretaceous period had natural causes and that there is still a prospect that painstaking analysis of fossils will lead to explanations which have some foundations. Then we shall no longer have to rely on hypotheses and supposition.

(Handelsblatt, 22 August 1969)

Dig at Heuneburg resumes

Excavations began once more at Heuneburg on the Upper Danube early in August.

Again finance has come from the Federal Republic Research Association in Bad Godesberg and the National Trust of South Württemberg-Hohenzollern. With the substantial aid these two bodies provide, further work will be possible at a site that is extremely important for the early history of the area.

When summer excavations are over the whole of the south-east corner of the site will have been explored. Insight will have been gained into the complicated building procedure of the time.

Over twenty cultural layers can be found here together with depositss which start in the fourteenth century B.C. and go on through the ages until the tenth century A.D. Until now no site had been found in the Federal state of Baden-Württemberg that had been inhabited so consistently throughout these early times.

Here at Heuneburg a lot can be learnt about house building alone, but the site is also an inexhaustible source of information for the history of trade and the economy as well as social history of the period around 500 B.C. in the area north of the Alps. There is of course no written evidence.

The department of prehistory and early history at Tübingen University is responsible for the excavation. The head, Dr Egon Gersbach, is an experienced archaeologist and has been on many such digs. Under him is a team of trained students who have swapped their term-time study for hard manual work. The young archaeologists are on vacation for three months. Every day they spend ten hours measuring, drawing, excavating and revealing new layers.

The students are joined by a tried and tested team of diggers from nearby Binzwangen who do all the hard excavation work. Conditions are eased by a plastic tent forty foot long by forty foot wide and other luxuries. In the cold autumn weeks the draughtsmen will be warmed by electric fires. Heuneburg is the coldest place in Upper Swabia.

This year again many students from both home and abroad are expected to come to the site to gain experience and acquaint themselves with the particular method of excavation developed here.

A group came from the Prehistoric Society of Great Britain, invited by the Roman-Germanic Commission of the Archaeological Institute and the state National Trust in Stuttgart. The group is on an extensive tour of the south of the Federal Republic.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 14 August 1969)

The dangers of moonlight

Moonlight can be dangerous for many tropical plants. Two biologists from Tübingen University, Drs Bünning and Moser, stated that as many protective measures had to be taken against moonlight as against excessive sunlight.

With this information the two biologists have solved a mystery that has long puzzled botanists. Why do some varieties of tropical plants turn their leaves away from bright moonlight and wither in much the same way as other plants protect themselves from excessive evaporation? Darwin too noticed this phenomenon.

The two Tübingen researchers were able to prove in experiments involving artificial moonlight that the intensity of tropical moonlight was sufficient to set the plant's light control in operation.

The whole metabolism of the plant depends on light control. Usually it conforms to the pattern of day and night. But the bright tropical moon is all it takes to set the light control into operation and disturb the whole system of the plant. Moving the position of the leaves reduces the amount of light that can affect it.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 24 August 1969)

New archaeological finds in Cologne

Three giant building sites near the cathedral are at present an additional attraction for visitors to Cologne.

Part of the wall around the cathedral has now been laid bare and the activities of the earth-movers at its feet are of great interest to onlookers.

They would be astounded to learn of all that has been unearthed in the massive pits. Sculptures of stone and bronze, paintings, mosaics and inscriptions found there are all thousands of years old.

Dr Doppelfeld, curator of the Roman and Germanic Museum, recently showed some of the finds to representatives of the press. First they saw a number of decorated and undecorated fragments from the Stone Age and the early Celtic La Tène civilisation.

This is the first time that so much from this early period has been found in the city centre. The discovery of a village dating from this period is also unique. Fragments of vessels bearing herringbone patterns, flint knives and arrowheads and remains of flint hatchets were found in kitchen middens where later inhabitants had deposited the cultural waste of ancestors and previous dwellers.

The excavation revealed one very important inscription from Roman times on a clay fragment: PRINCEPS XIX. Experts conclude from this that the highest officer of the XIX Legion after the centurion stayed a while in Cologne. This would prove the existence of two Roman camps in Cologne, one for the XVII and the other for the XIX Legion.

Progress has been made in the excavation of the Augustinian road network now running underneath the streets of Cologne. Original theories can now be confirmed or denied. The road surface consisted of large basalt slabs imported probably from the area around Linz. The streets were lined with terraced houses. Handworkers and tradesman followed their profession under the arcades. Between the arcades and the interior of the house was a small courtyard.

No ground-plan has been found but it can be concluded that the houses had two storeys and sometimes tower-like structures. The Merovingians kept this road system. In Carolingian times it fell victim to Imperial construction plans.

In the second half on the first century A.D. the temple of Mercurius Augustus stood where the cathedral stands today. Remains of this have now been found and some archaeological experts have claimed that they rival Heliopolis.

Door drapes have been found and so has a carving of a squuirel sitting in the foliage of an acanthus being threatened by a hissing snake. Other people interpret the design as a hare with grapes. Another find was the tombstone of a veteran of the first legion stationed in Bonn.

The most sensational discovery was a Roman mural from the second or third century which has largely been preserved intact. Dr Doppelfeld said that its artistic quality was first-rate. The remains of the murals were found on two different levels.

Beautiful fragments have been dug up showing idyllic scenes with foxes, rams, putto heads and ornamental vases. They are now being pieced together although they are badly damaged. Part of the wall from which they come is still in the pit.

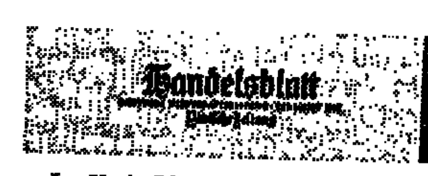
The damage was caused mainly in the Roman period. In thoses times when a wall became unsightly a new layer of plaster was merely stuck on top. Holes were made in the old plaster so that the new layer would hold better. This meant that the older and more valuable layer suffered. The walls also show that clay pipes must have been used for heating.

The most modern finds are Carolingian mosaics from the south-west corner of the cathedral. At the moment they are being dried before being loosened and taken to a museum.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 August 1969)

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Blessing recommends a wait-and-see policy as regards Mark revaluation



Is Karl Blessing, the head of the Bundesbank, disassociating himself from demands for the Mark to be revalued? Many people wonder after an interview Dr Blessing gave *Deutsche Welle*, this country's short-wave transmitter.

Some local newspapers immediately said in banner headlines that he was. But the Bundesbank chief only emphasised that the situation today is different from a few months ago.

His basis for this statement is that the Americans are resolved, in his opinion, to bring inflationary trends to a halt, the British are trying to work their way towards a better financial situation and the French have devalued.

His conclusion is that this country must sit back and wait for further developments and review the situation later.

In fact Blessing did not express any definite opinion on revaluation in his interview and did not call for an adjustment of exchange rates. It has seemed unwise to him for weeks to make such a request, for, as he told the Central Bank Council before the summer holidays, he wishes to steer clear of the election battle.

This question of the rights and wrongs of revising the exchange rate has become one of the crucial topics in the bid to enter the Bundestag, even though strategists from both big parties would have preferred to have given it a wide berth.

It can hardly be taken amiss that Dr Blessing is keen to avoid being put between the shafts of a party bandwaggon.

It cannot, despite attempts to interpret Karl Blessing's comments this way or the other, be denied that the Bundesbank is still of the opinion that it is essential to make the Mark dearer for foreign buyers in order to combat an infection of the economy with the dreaded inflation bacillus.

The last two Bundesbank monthly reports have shown that the guardians of the currency are taking great pains to try to find a way of dampening down the effects of trends in other countries, which are leading to price rises here. They are all out to carry the economy through the boom into a phase of untroubled growth.

Although the Bundesbank has not mentioned revaluation of the Mark in so many words of late, it has been possible to read between the lines of its report that there continues to be a measure of scepticism about the efficacy of the Federal government's measures to damp down the overheated economy.

In their latest report, issued only a few days ago, it is confirmed that despite much overtime working industrial concerns are finding themselves with an ever higher backlog of orders. Figures continued to rise in June.

The Bundesbank was again forced to point out that the union pay claims now under discussion would only lead to higher spending and push up prices on the consumer market.

In this respect the bank regretted that it had not been possible, despite continual probings on the foreign trade boundaries of monetary restrictions, to cut down the amount of money in circulation to a level which was more in keeping with actual growth rates in this country's economic system.

With comments such as these being uttered in the background it is impossible to imagine that the head of the bank of issue has completely abandoned the idea of revaluation.

It seems nearer the mark to suppose that he has realised that nothing can be done to alter the cabinet's decision to maintain parity, at least until after the elections, and that however much noise is made in Frankfurt (the Bundesbank's headquarters) nothing will be achieved.

This is by no means resignation. It is simply a case of realising the facts of the situation at a time when the loudest cry for economic measures is like a still small voice, drowned by the booming cannons of the election battle.

Dr Blessing is in a far more comfortable situation than the Social Democrats, who openly advocated revaluation and publicly had to admit defeat.

Since it is not possible to change the financial situation at present, Dr Blessing can sit on the party-political fence with a good conscience.

His advice to sit back and wait means that the question of Mark parity must be postponed until the turn of the year, when it can be reconsidered and a definite decision must be made.

Changing situations demand new solutions to old problems.

(Handelsblatt, 20 August 1969)

Increased trade with Arab world

Trade between the Federal Republic and Arab countries continued to r[...] during the first six months 1969.

Figures published by the Economic Affairs Ministry show that this country's exports to Arab states rose to 1,6[...] million Marks between January and [...] 1969.

This figure was 162 million Marks, 17.5 per cent, up on the same period [...] year. Imports from the Arab world r[...] by 91.9 million Marks to 2767.5 million Marks.

Oil is still the main import. Of the total of 43.4 million tons of oil that the Federal Republic imported in these months about 36.8 million tons (roughly 84 per cent) were obtained from Arab countries.

This represents an increase of 2[...] million tons on the first six months of 1968.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 27 August 1969)

Good business at Frankfurt fair

Exhibitors at Frankfurt autumn fair have found their optimistic expectations to have been completely fulfilled.

This can be seen not only from the results of official surveys, but also by observations made by attentive visitors at this consumer goods fair.

Buyers and prospective buyers came from 79 countries. Of those there was a larger representation from other Common Market countries than from Efta.

Orders from domestic buyers were particularly aimed at the Christmas trade.

There were several orders for long-term articles, for instance goods that could be sold as *special offers* in the winter sales of early 1970.

It was unanimously agreed that there could be no talk of a boom in the consumer goods industry at this year's autumn fair, although business was somewhat brisker than at this time last year. Good though the trading figures were at Frankfurt, they were nowhere near as high as the figure for turnover in the record, 1966.

Demand from prospective buyers from abroad was higher than in previous years. As a rule the autumn fair tends to be more concerned with short and medium-term buying for the home market.

This year, however, apart from European customers the North Americans have been keen to complete contracts in time for Christmas trade deliveries.

Demand from abroad was unexpectedly good for handicrafts.

Uncertainty about the way the economy will develop had a certain effect on prices.

At the Frankfurt fair itself there were in general few price rises. But it must not be forgotten that about thirty per cent of exhibitors had already increased their prices in the first six months of 1969. More than fifteen per cent of them had put up prices by up to five per cent. More than one tenth of them had made increases of six to ten per cent.

Price increases at the fair were especially noticeable on the glass, porcelain, jewellery, textile and gift counters.

There is no overall answer to the question of how prices have developed this autumn. It is important to note, however, that the rising trend in prices caused exclusively by economic factors and affecting mainly those sections where there is strong competition from abroad was not too evident at the Frankfurt fair. This was the case in the cosmetics and toiletsy and bath sections and on household furniture stalls.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 August 1969)

Closer trading ties with East

This country's unilateral revocation of the agreement to supply the Soviet Union with pipes and tubes in 1963, which Moscow considered to be nothing short of breach of contract, was the start of a rather grim phase in Soviet-Federal Republic trade relations.

Japan seemed for a time to be the Soviet Union's favourite trade partner among capitalist countries, whereas we in this country could only sit on our undelivered pipes and watch!

The present government's endeavours to formulate an active policy towards the Eastern bloc countries have paved the way to more favourable trade relationships with them.

Whether close business cooperation with the Communist Bloc is just an accompanying feature of the overall policy or in fact the main point of more cordial relations with the East is an open question. Either way it has been noticeable lately that the East has been showing growing concern and readiness to improve economic cooperation with this country.

This applies to the German Democratic Republic (GDR) as well. Trade with the GDR has grown far more encouragingly than had been expected, as State Secretary Klaus-Dieter Arndt of the Federal Economic Affairs Ministry recently said in connection with the Leipzig autumn fair.

In East Berlin too opinions on trade with this country are different now from in the recent past. It used to appear necessary to people in the other part of Germany to cut back trade with the Federal Republic, in order to force Bonn into politically directed management of trade agreements.

The volume of trade between the two parts of Germany increased by more than a quarter in the first half of this year. For the first time the GDR is about to deliver a complete industrial plant to the Federal Republic.

Including inter-zonal trade, six per cent of this country's business dealings involve trade with the East. But even if this intra-German trade is ignored the Federal Republic is still the most prolific European trader with the East.

After years of stagnation 1968 saw a sudden reawakening of trade with the Soviet Union, with exports rising by 38 per cent. The visit of the Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade to the Hanover Fair in April this year is a further indication of Russia's new interest in trading with this country.

The Soviet Union is the only country in the Eastern bloc that sells more to us than it buys from us. Steel tubing was the start of the rot six years ago. Perhaps the mutual trade of tubing for natural gas will be the overture to better trade relations and cooperation.

Thyssen have negotiated with the Soviet Union for a contract to supply tubing and have embarked on a project of mutual technological research with Moscow. Talks to arrange the supply of large-bore tubes in return for gas from the Soviet Union will recommence this week in Moscow.

Extremely important contracts, which would supply this country's steel industry with work for several years, hang in the balance.

The green light for new initiatives in East-West trade was given in March this year when the Warsaw Pact countries met in Budapest to discuss future trade arrangements with capitalist countries.

Their decision seems to involve sweeping changes and the end of many old prejudices. The East seems more ready than ever before to work with the West for the expansion of industry.

Communist countries are in need of capital goods, licences, technical advice and credit. The Soviet Union cannot meet all these needs. Despite remarkable strides in basic research communist countries, including the Soviet Union, lag far behind the West in the field of industrial technology.

Poland too has shown willing to improve its trade relations with the Federal Republic and work towards joint production and trade projects. State Secretary Arndt confirmed this after his visit to Warsaw.

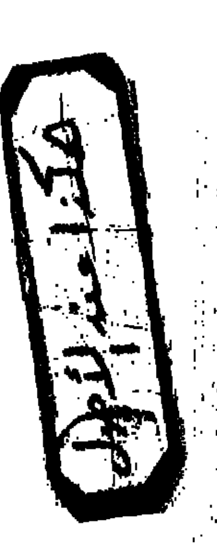
Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller on a recent visit to Bucharest spoke with Rumanian Minister Burtica about plans for extending industrial dealings between the two countries. The Federal Republic is Rumania's second most important trade partner after the Soviet Union.

Professor Schiller is the third Bonn minister to visit Bucharest.

Trade agreements for extended dealings with Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria in 1969 have been completed. The expansion of industry in this country is having its effect on trade with the East.

Both sides realise that an increased level of trade can only lead to a desirable relaxation in political tension between countries separated by the Iron Curtain.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 August 1969)



BUSINESS

Pace increases for chemical industry mergers

The stage is set for the formation of new giant companies in the European chemical industry.

In the Netherlands the Aku group made structural changes in July when the Enka and Glanzstoff companies completed an economic and organisational merger. It will now amalgamate with the Koninklijke Zoutorganon (KZO).

In France in April Rhône-Poulenc, the chemical and synthetic fibre concern, took over the sixth largest French chemical company Produits Chimique Gillet et Fils (Progil). The basic negotiations for a further merger were completed in July. Rhône-Poulenc are to take over the Pechiney-Saint-Gobain company, which was formed from two separate firms in 1961.

In Switzerland talks are still being held between Ciba and Geigy, two worldwide firms which produce pharmaceutical and chemical goods.

Yet these amalgamations of the giants of the chemical industry are presumably only the first step towards new far-reaching organisational changes. In the tightly organised Aku group experts forecast that the new set-up will last one or two years. In the case of Rhôe-Poulenc it is estimated that the new structure will survive between four and seven years.

In the Netherlands the second largest chemical concern Nederlandse Staatsmijnen (DSM) with a turnover of 1,000 million guilders is for the time being playing a waiting game.

This company, made partially private in 1967, is certainly carrying on talks with regard to cooperation on all sides, but the central government is still a powerful influence in checking this trend.

In the long run, however, closer cooperation with the Aku and KZO groups or with Royal Dutch/Shell, a big name in all branches of the chemical industry, or even with a large chemical combine in neighbouring countries is within the realms of possibility.

One of the most productive places for rumours and speculation about mergers of giant chemical firms in France. Rhône-Poulenc's activity must be viewed against a background which, in comparison to the growth and development of the chemical industry in America and the Federal Republic shows rather unfavourable trends.

Strong governmental influence and the splitting up of production groups into various sectors and small factories have presented problems in the technological and economic sphere which for more than a decade have prevented French companies latching on to expansion in international chemical giants.

Now it appears that the younger generation of top men in the French chemical industry is keen to seek the solutions to its problems in the marketing and technological trends of the seventies and eighties.

The next gambit could well involve Ugine Kuhlmann (with a turnover of 3,100 million francs in 1968) and the nationalised oil companies Erap-Elf and CFR.

Rumours surrounding these companies are spiced by the fact that on one side Ugine Kuhlmann is cooperating with Progil in several joint companies and on the other hand Erap with its 51 per cent shareholding in the Société Nationale des Pétroles d'Aquitaine (Snap) is already involved in the chemistry of fuel oil, with the emphasis on artificial production techniques.

But that is not the end of the game of suppositions. Experts on the European chemical scene consider it quite possible that Rhône-Poulenc may link up with Ugine Kuhlmann to become one of the chemical giants in France.

In addition to this, soothsayers should not overlook the fact that the French industrialist family, Gillet, a decisive influence on the Rhône-Poulenc combine and partly instrumental in effecting the fusion with the Progil company, also with a family basis, has further connections with the Belgian Solvay group.

The concentration of power in the Swiss chemical industry, which centres around the likely merger of Ciba and Geigy early in 1970, poses the question of what will happen to the other companies based in Basle.

Followers of market trends in Switzerland are not in agreement with regard to Sandoz (1968 turnover 2,200 million Swiss Francs) which has a similar production programme to Ciba and Geigy, manufacturing pharmaceutical goods, dyes, plant protection substances and drugs.

Most observers, however, consider that the company will go it alone for the foreseeable future. It is absolutely certain that the world's largest manufacturer of pharmaceutical goods, Hoffmann-La Roche is not on the brink of any amalgamation.

It might be imagined that the news about the mergers of these chemical giants on the borders of this country would cause the Federal Republic's three big chemical concerns a great deal of unrest. The completion of the mergers will result in companies with a combined turnover this year of 6,500 to 7,000 million Marks (Aku/KZO), 8,000 million Marks (Rhône-Poulenc) and 5,500 million Marks (Ciba/Geigy).

No fears and anxieties

Rises in turnover in future years could result in a higher cash-flow and in greater sums for investment and research than was the case with the old small-scale firms.

On top of this the merging companies have numerous subsidiaries and associated companies at home, in other parts of Europe and in other continents. Much more intensive market activity would be possible.

The main aim of the mergers in the Netherlands and France, however, is to expand the production programme. In the case of Aku and KZO, as well as Rhône-Poulenc, Progil and also PSG, companies active at certain gravitating points of the chemical industry are joining forces.

Aku, which specialises in producing synthetic yarn, is gaining a valuable partner in the field of chemicals and intermediary products by its merger with KZO. Similarly with the marriage of Rhône-Poulenc (synthetics and pharmaceutical goods) and Progil (organic intermediary products with a fuel oil basis) and PSG (chemical products obtained from oil).

Both groups are making great strides forward with regard to establishing concerns with an integrated production technique, and a standardised production line leading from raw materials, through primary products, and intermediary products to a marketable end product.

The three newly formed companies in this country seem to be operating with great nonchalance, resulting presumably from awareness of their own strength. "We are not losing any sleep over the amalgamation of large concerns in neighbouring countries," Professor Kurt Hansen, chairman of the board of directors of the Bayer chemical dye manufacturers, confirmed.

Federal Republic chemical concerns, hardened by years of struggle against worldwide competition, with America as their main rival, are not quaking at the prospect of increased competition form other European chemical giants.

Nor are the new figures for turnover in these companies and the connected aspect of finance for investment and research seen as a threat. Companies here have only to look at their own books to find solace: total world turnover at Bayer will pass the 9,000 million Mark level this year. Hoechst will not be far short of this figure and BASF is reaping the harvest of the seeds it sowed with its buying policy and expansion programme by leaping into the 8,000 million group.

The coolly calculated future of the situation in the European chemical industry of the seventies is not a sign that the top men in Leverkusen (Bayer), Hoechst and Ludwigshafen (BASF) are resting on their laurels.

Professor Bernhard Timm, chairman of the BASF board said: "In the coming years we will be looking far into the future and forecasting market trends many years hence. Using our judgment and basing our plans on these carefully forecast predictions we shall expand our capacity in all branches. Our main concern will be to see that newly acquired companies flourish and grow and we shall take great pains to strengthen them."

Expansion for BASF and the other two companies mentioned above will be directed by the requirements of company policy on a worldwide basis.

Regional developments will certainly not be overlooked and local requirements will be respected, but they can not be allowed to dictate company policy. As Professor Hansen said, developments in other Western European countries must not be allowed to dictate to Bayer and Hoechst how they should conduct their negotiations on the solution of administrative problems.

If events in the Netherlands, France and Switzerland exert any influence on this country's chemical industry it probably lies in two areas.

Firstly, the concentration of power in these foreign companies could cause firms in the Federal Republic to keep a constant check on their own administrative ideas and make them constantly revise their aims, particularly with regard to economic and technical efficiency. Professor Timm said this when he stated that chemical giants in the future would have to weigh up carefully from a technological and economic point of view the number of departments in their concern which would be given over to mass production and the number which would produce specialised items.

The larger concerns would make it more economic to produce primary and intermediary items. Specialist products are mainly of interest from the point of view of marketing and profits.

The three major chemical companies in the Federal Republic are on the way to adopting the production structure that the American firms were the first to use.

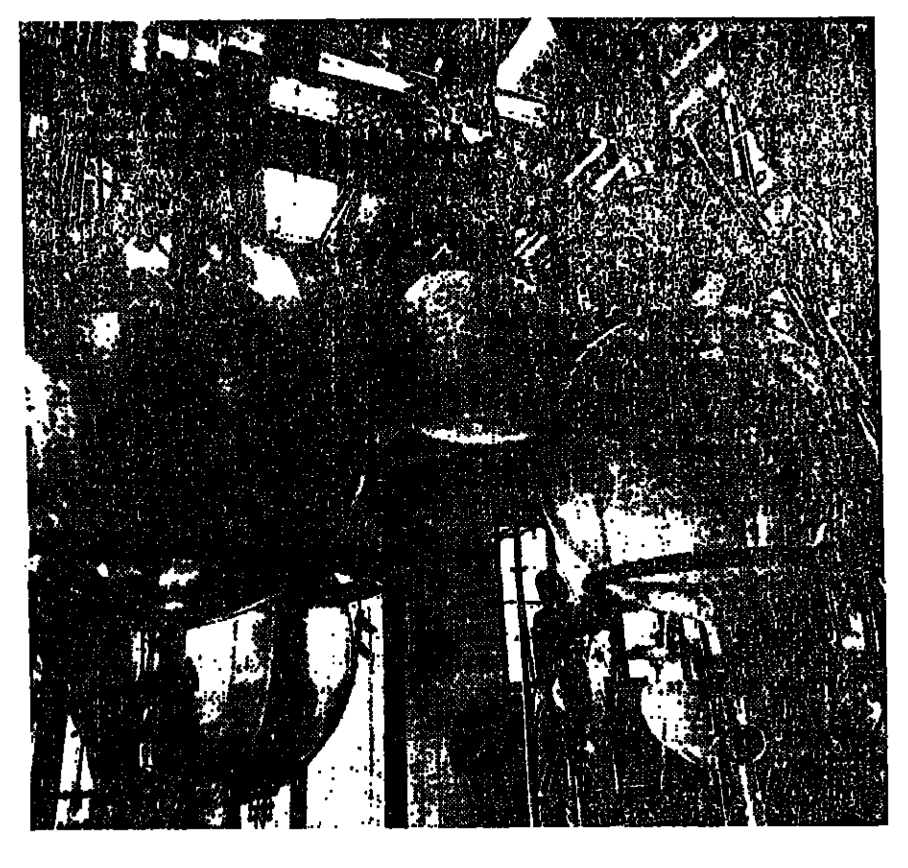
Professor Timm stressed that from the point of view of demand, production capacity and organisation of the company's tasks it would be quite possible and even desirable, if present trends continue, to have chemical firms with an annual turnover of 15,000 to 20,000 million Marks.

Furthermore such mergers might speed up work on the formation of an international company law.

Professor Hansen pointed out that in his opinion the building up of gigantic companies within the frontiers of one country are not much help. He would prefer to see further cooperation across borders. In order to bring this about, however, he considers it necessary for the Brussels Common Market Commission to hasten the formulation of European company law.

Ernst Koch

(DIE WELT, 22 August 1969)



A forceful motive for mergers in the chemical industry is the expense for research and development. Between 4 and 5 per cent of profits are devoted to research. This is an experimental laboratory operated by E. Merck at Darmstadt

(Photo: Hakan Nilsson)



■ TECHNOLOGY

Television exhibition at Stuttgart

The 26th German Radio and Television Show was opened on 28 August. About 120 firms specialising in radio and television equipment and the broadcasting services themselves will be represented at the exhibition. Until 7 September it was a great attraction for visitors and specialists from all over the world.

Every evening the two television channels in this country advertise the Radio and Television Show with the slogan "Something for the Inquisitive."

But this advertising slogan is only partly true. Of course the visitor finds a lot to see there but only very few genuine innovations and novelties.

There are almost 220 shows at Stuttgart between 29 August and 7 September. Opening hours have been extended until ten o'clock at night to attract the public. Once before Stuttgart had good fortune with the Radio and Television Show. In 1965 it set up a record with 566,000 visitors. This had led to officials forecasting up to 700,000 visitors for this year's exhibition.

The economic boom also affects this branch of industry. When sound engineering and components are included this category accounts for 17.1. per cent of this country's electronics industry.

As soon as the holidays are over work will resume at full pelt. The shortage of components last spring and summer seriously affected production and in some cases factories had to stop work, sometimes for days on end.

Factories making condensers and resistors have been expanded and increased imports should guarantee a better autumn and winter.

Even so, manufacturing figures have reached new peaks. In the first six months of this year the value of the total production of radio and television receivers went up eighteen per cent to 1,200 million Marks. About 200,000 television sets and 530,000 radios more were produced than in the corresponding period last year. Because of increased exports only some of these reached the home market.

The demand for colour television sets is as great as ever. The normal decline in summer was avoided this year because the moon-landing was televised. Dealers drew on later stocks to satisfy the demand.

The delivery situation for ordinary black and white sets is better. Occasionally small stockpiles can be built up. It is usually the cheapest black and white receivers that are sold. The main turnover is on sets sold to replace old models. The customer is then faced with the choice of buying another black and white set or a colour one. People who decide on a black and white set prefer to buy a cheap one as a stopgap until they are tempted to purchase a colour model.

Trade sources claim that the demand for stereo equipment varies. Small record-players have become a popular present and are therefore subject to seasonal variations. There has been a big boom in tape recorders, cassettes and records. The industry aims to sell one million cassettes and seventy million records this year.

In spite of the delays in delivery and increased demand, prices have remained stable. Neckermann have reduced the price of their 19-inch and 23-inch colour TV-sets by 200 Marks and 100 Marks respectively. But it is improbable that these and similar price reductions will have any far-reaching effects. Most of the reductions are on smaller screen televisions which are not so much in demand, having only a twenty per cent share of the total market.

Thanks to skilful business management the wholesale trade was able to improve price margins on colour sets long regarded as inadequate — by two points without alteration of fixed prices. This was made possible by a considerable price reduction in colour tubes.

The market shows a falling-off of tempting offers which could affect trade. There are still examples however. The lowest price for a 24-inch black and white set was 498 Marks for a model from the GDR. And competition has become less fierce.

Although each employee of the industry produced 41,900 Marks worth of equipment in 1968 and in spite of large scale rationalisation the producer does not earn much on radio and television equipment. Taking 1962 as 100 the price index had fallen to 88.5 in 1967 and value added tax has forced it down to 80.7 points.

In the last eighteen months wholesalers have had a high turnover. Questions are raised when the statistics for 1968/9 are compared with the statistics for 1967. The influence of value added tax and stockpiling has obviously not been adequately taken into account. Otherwise the turnover figures for wholesaler and retailer would not be so divergent.

Long discussion with some firms has meant that the wholesale trade has secured some of its most important interests, such as its course of action with retail cooperatives. The evident return to price maintenance has spurred on the wholesalers. The wholesale trade is anxious for declarations to be made according to its own wishes. Wega has introduced price maintenance and Kuba has fixed the prices of its colour televisions. Firms like Saba, Nordmende and Grundig drastically reduced the number of the wholesale dealers they supply a long time ago. Saba, for instance, has not supplied department stores for many years.

The impulse to innovation can only be negligible when there are constant difficulties fulfilling delivery dates, finding enough staff and manufacturing enough parts.

And indeed there are very few titbits at the 1969 Radio and Television Show. One of the most outstanding things on show is a colour TV set manufactured by Kuba-Imperial. Its volume is so highly tuned that it corresponds to the hi-fi DIN 45,500 norm.

Hans Kolbe have developed a car aerial in the shape of sports car's rear view mirror. Professor H.H. Meinke of Munich University made this new development possible.

Mention must also be made of Philips' decision to enter this country's aerial market. Philips will now supply the Federal Republic as well as many European countries with aerials, amplifiers, switches and cables. The home industry will meet with great competition.

Telefunken exhibited the prototype of a video-recorder for the home which can be converted for colour. Its price and delivery date is not yet known.

Blaupunkt exhibited television sets with fronts that could be decorated in six different colours.

Karl Tetzner

(Handelsblatt, 27 August 1969)



This 'Video-Recorder' was shown at the Stuttgart television exhibition. The equipment will reproduce from a tape television programmes. The cost is approximately 2,000 Marks.

(Photo: Philips)



This globular apparatus has been developed by Nord-Mende and was shown at Stuttgart. It includes a television screen, tape-recorder and record player.

(Photo: dpa)

Dollinger favours independent television service

At a recent press conference, held at the Radio and Television Show in Stuttgart, Minister of Posts and Communications Werner Dollinger came out in favour of independent television.

The technical basis was there, he said. It was now up to the Federal states to grant licences for independent services.

Dr Dollinger declared that discussions of independent television had been encouraged by the passing of the Saar's Radio Law and the decision of the Federal Post Office to use the 12,000 million gigahertz range for television.

From 1971 new frequencies would be available in this range and cities and conurbations would be able to have a further three to five television channels. By the autumn the Federal Post Office will have four experimental transmitters and a larger number of receivers ready for operation.

But the Post Office was responsible only for the allocation of wavelengths and the technical side. Werner Dollinger said he hoped that the Federal states would take advantage of the present possibilities.

Dr Dollinger recently laid the foundation stone for the new short-wave transmitter at Mindelheim. The station will, he stated, improve the reception of broadcasts of Deutsche Welle to countries outside Europe.

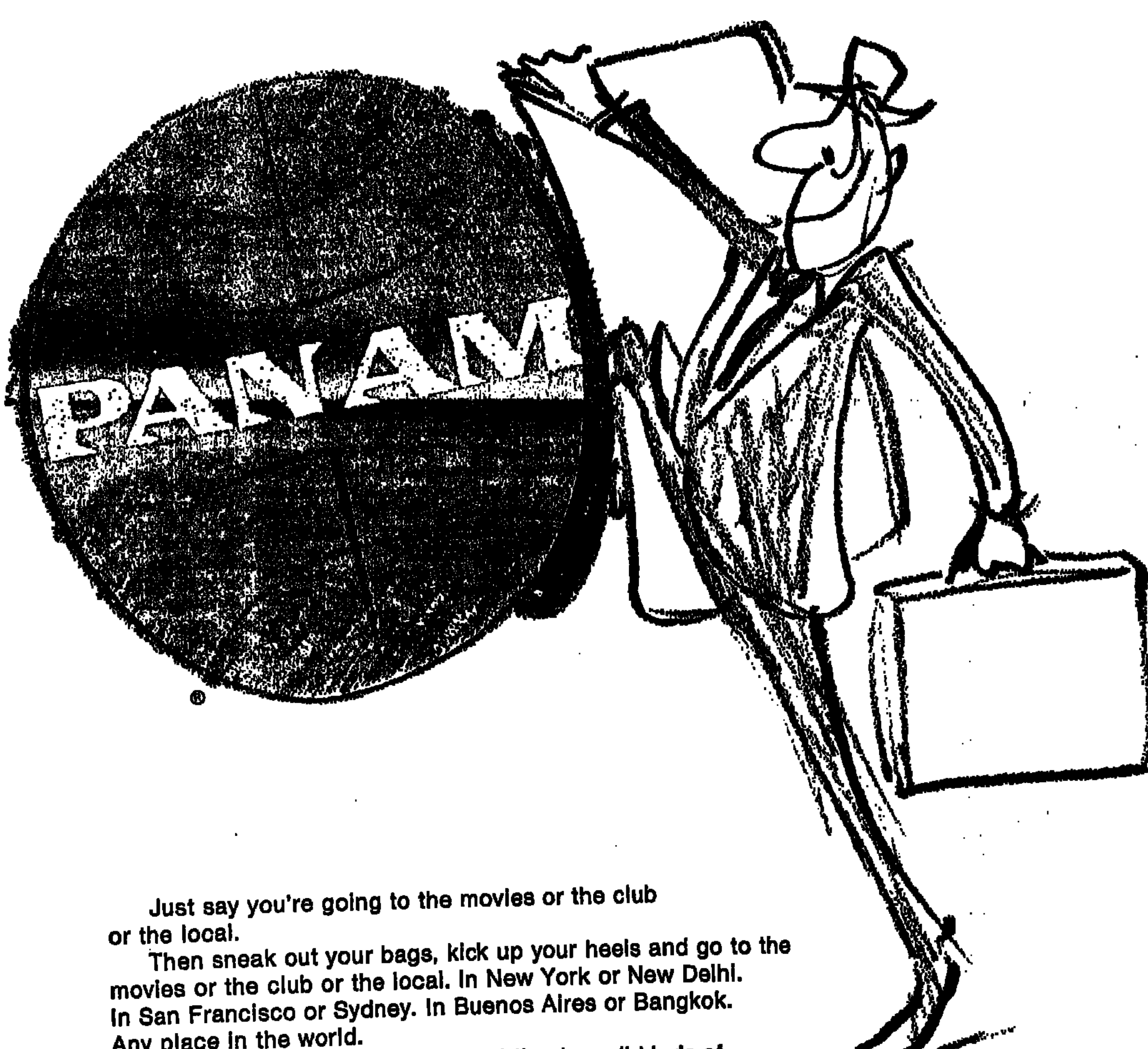
An improvement in the provision of Deutschlandfunk in other European countries is possible only after the long-wave and medium-wave frequencies available to the Federal Republic have been reallocated. With the advent of satellite communication short-wave frequencies are not so important for the foreign and overseas telephone service.

More than one hundred firms specialising in radio and electrical goods are represented at the exhibition, as well as the to television channels, ARD and ZDF, and the Federal Republic Post Office. These bodies give a comprehensive picture of the position of electronics in entertainment today.

The Berlin Radio and Television Show in 1967 marked the introduction of colour television. Now colour television appears in more than half a million homes. The current show at Stuttgart is expected to popularise colour television still further and increase sales.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 29 August 1969)

Go without saying.



Just say you're going to the movies or the club or the local.

Then sneak out your bags, kick up your heels and go to the movies or the club or the local. In New York or New Delhi. In San Francisco or Sydney. In Buenos Aires or Bangkok. Any place in the world.

The world's most experienced airline has all kinds of places. From the Northern Lights to the South Sea Islands. And we've got all kinds of budget fares and package tours to get you there.

We fly to 119 cities in 81 lands on all six continents.

So get to a Pan Am Travel Agent fast. Then pull a fast one. On your boss or your neighbors or your mother-in-law. And go! Today.

They'll get the idea. Tomorrow.

Pan Am makes the going great.

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YOUNG WORLD

Spotlight on the young with-it set at Düsseldorf fair

Teenage Fair 69, an exhibition held in Düsseldorf, was the first in this country designed especially to cater for the needs of young people. It was the loudest, most colourful, most original and funniest fair ever. Its target group was the nine million people between the ages of fourteen and 24 who represent an annual purchasing power of 20,000 million Marks. The words of Herr Schoop, director of the exhibition, "Fairs have always been accused of being too drab and unimaginative," almost sound apologetic. In August Düsseldorf witnessed an exhibition that can only be described as total show. The decorators, for the most part young people, were for once able to outpop themselves.

Every stand had an enormous amount of pop music at the ready. Even firms as respectable as clearing banks usually are had their own beat bands twanging away between the posters urging people to put money in the bank.

Light machines provided colours appropriate to the sounds and films and slides were also shown. Even fog throwers were used to create the effect of total show.

The custom the show was intended to attract stood and sat in front of the sources of music snapping their fingers, swinging and dancing to show everyone with ears to listen that the Teenage Fair was fabulous.

There was only one thing the exhibitors forgot: the peace and quiet needed to sell information about their clothing, pop jewellery, cosmetics, film, radios, record-players, cars, drinks, household goods, books and savings accounts to the young people.

More than 8,000 firms were invited by the Düsseldorf exhibition authorities to aim their advertising at young people, the market of the future. A hundred and sixteen responded, although they must have realised that the exhibition was unlikely to result in a direct sales increase.

"We aim to ask young people to help us," the public relations head of a major car manufacturer explained. "That," he said, "is why we are taking part. Although the fourteen- to 24-year-old age group represents an increasingly important factor in consumption we still know next to nothing about them."

Dr Ruth Münster, the author of *Geld in Niethosen* (Money in Jeans Pockets), comments that "Without young customers entire lines of business would go bankrupt."

They include moped manufacturers, cafes for young people, boutiques and part of the clothing industry. Gramophone record firms are also well aware of the importance of teenage custom. A Cologne-based firm reckons that "Roughly eighty per cent of pop music and 55 per cent of classical music is bought by young people."

What none of them know is the factor that makes teenage trade such a risky business. Why do teenagers buy one product and steer clear of another? The fair was accordingly intended as a major test market.

A Hamburg market research firm questioned a representative cross-section of visitors to the fair and hopes to find out why young people are so incalculable, why today's hit can so easily be a white elephant tomorrow.

Young people must, of course, be addressed in their own language. "This is it," the exhibition posters read. "116 firms show what is in. Fab. Great. Friends, neighbours, fans: off to Düsseldorf."

Even old-established and respectable firms assured all and sundry at Düsseldorf that their lines were fabulous. "Hi, partner, put pep into your money!" savings banks proclaimed, and a car manufacturer that need hardly be named attracted young people with its Beetle Boutique.

It remains to be seen whether they sounded the right note or not. "As soon as young people notice that someone is trying to get matey with them they switch off," Ruth Münster notes. It is obviously a tricky business. Advertisers who use conventional methods are viewed as old fogies but those who use the language of young people run the risk of being regarded as brash outsiders.

Many of the firms represented at Düsseldorf do not exactly have a reputation of being attractive to young people. But you never can tell. "It is only a rumour that teenagers are not prepared to put money by," a major bank commented.

They may want to buy what they like but 72 per cent of young people feel "it is good to save for a rainy day." And two out of three replied to the question "What would you do if you won 30,000 Marks in a lottery? " The answer: "Save it."

750 million Marks a year go into the bottom drawer. One in six of the thirty million savings bank accounts in this country are registered in the name of fourteen-to 24-year-olds. Between them they have 7,000 million Marks in the bank. At Düsseldorf the largest building society in the country proclaimed that thirty per cent of its customers were under thirty.

A publisher of cookery books reckoned Düsseldorf was well worth the trouble and expense. So did a piano manufacturer. "We want to show young people that we make cars for youngsters," Mercedes' public relations boys said. "We want to show them that our "Fat Man with Cigar" image is wrong. And we want to get the name across here and now. When all is said and done, young people grow older. '

At stands everywhere there are either people who are still young themselves or, like Herr Schoop, the exhibition organiser, recalled that "We were all young at some stage or other." All had let their ideas run riot in an attempt to interest and entertain young people.

One fashion show dance followed another. Go Go girls twisted themselves into a frenzy. Judo and dancing instructors gave visitors hints on self--defence and the latest dance steps. You could take a pot shot at Federal league goalies or try your hand at a game with the silver medallist in the world table tennis championships.

Boxer Bubi Scholz, racing driver Manuel Fangio, pop singer Roy Black and film star Uschi Glas took part in autograph marathons and everyone with a name in show business put in an appearance.

The savings bank association even had a computer of its own on show. Daisy was an instant success with teenagers because it had a sense of humour. When misprogrammed it drily rejoined: "You can't fool me, mate." That had the required effect.

But not all is sweetness and light. A teenage fair held in Stockholm in 1968 was a financial failure because of left-wing opposition. Demonstrators put the public off. An exhibition for young people planned for spring 1969 in West Berlin and to be called Kicks was cancelled because of rumbles of displeasure from the extra-parliamentary opposition.

A number of groups threatened to demonstrate against the Düsseldorf fair too. Their objection was that the fair amounted to consumer terror and was designed solely to encourage young people to spend more money.

The fair organisers took it all in their stride. "All we propose to do is to provide information," they noted. "Nothing will be on sale." They did not even object to the distribution of leaflets at the exhibition or to demonstrators talking ot young people there.

A Düsseldorf local government official replied to the question as to what were his feelings about the fair "I only hope that hippies will not take ove;the Rhine embankment."

His misgivings can only be shared by people who are too far away from today's younger generation. Teenagers of 1969 are not long-haired as many imagine. They do not conform to the clichés of the general public at all.

The organisers hoped that the Teenage Fair would help to lessen prejudice against young people. "Young people," the Federal government's report on youth concluded, "prefer steady boy-or girlfriends to casual acquaintanceships." Most are normal, refreshing youngsters.



Fun at the teenage fair

Seventy per cent maintain that the most worthwhile aim in life is to be happily married.

Fifty-seven per cent dream of pop stars such as Rex Gildo, Barry Ryan and Peggy March but also think in terms of a comfortable old age.

Sixty per cent would like some day to own a house of their own and almost as many more felt they wanted to get something out of life.

Perhaps the most important point about the younger generation today is that they want to work but take a dim view of the generation before them which worked so hard in post-war reconstruction that in many cases life went by the board.

They have no intention of being at their parents' beck and call. When Lars and Peter Brandt, the sons of Foreign Minister Willy Brandt, took part in a controversial film based on a novel by Günter Grass their father realistically commented "I can't very well stop them."

On the other hand 33 per cent of young people still have confidence in their parents and 67 per cent find life at home comfortable enough. They worship Roy Black and other pop idols but the men they would really like to emulate are Kennedy and Gandhi.

They are self-confident, want to be left to their own devices and unlike previous generations do not dream of being grown-up. Being older does not nowadays involve much in the way of additional freedom.

They are as sure of themselves as if the world were their oyster and society really does seem to be taking on an increasingly younger look. Already there are 33-year-olds in the Bundestag and thirty-year-olds in management. Thirty-five-year-olds wear young fashions.

In the past young people dressed and behaved like adults in order to be taken seriously sooner. Nowadays many grown-ups behave like youngsters in order to stay young themselves.

Aenne Brauksiepe, Minister of Family Affairs, has no doubts as to the main difference between today's younger generation and their predecessors. "They grow up sooner and have to prove themselves sooner than young people did in the past," she states. "They have to cope with more serious problems and so are more in need than ever of willingness on the part of the older generation to talk things over ."

Young people who flocked to Düsseldorf by special train from all over the country had no lack of opportunity to discuss matters. Even the Churches were represented among the pop exhibits.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 24 August 1969)



Mannequins parade to the sound of pop music. The clothes they are modelling were made in Pforzheim. (Photos: Claus Wolde)



SPORT

Will the Munich Olympics become a debacle?

On 26 August 1972 the twentieth modern Olympic Games are to be officially opened in front of 80,000 spectators at the new Oberwiesenfeld Stadium in Munich. Several million people will watch the opening ceremony on television. Grave doubts are besetting people who have to rely on the local press in Munich to confirm that the games will take place.

A preparations proceed and the opening date draws closer, several headlines foresee disaster: "Olympic fiasco." "Preparations for Munich games hit by scandal," "Olympics in danger" and "The party's over – dawn of disillusionment."

Similar gloomy forebodings come from the people of Munich, too, as several interviews have shown. These are some of their words of wisdom: "Nothing good'll come of it; says so every day in the papers, doesn't it? " "All you ever hear about is scandal, isn't it? " (Thus spoke a park-keeper.) "If you ask me it's a damned awful business," said a publican.

More to the point, the main responsibility for the expected debacle is repeatedly being ascribed to the unfortanate choice of officials. What this usually boils down to is non-Bavarian officials!

Chief scapegoat is the General Secretary of the Organising Committee, Herbert Kunze, a lawyer and sports organiser. Old, long-discarded incorrect newspaper reports are tending to be taken up again with monotonous regularity and reprinted out of misplaced and misunderstood local patriotism.

Of course the Olympic Organising Committee, like all officials, authorities, clubs and associations, can not be expected to carry out its duties without meeting some criticism on the way. In Munich, however, people really ssem to be kicking over the traces.

For the sake of the games it is a relief that a more matter-of-fact attitude is being adopted in other parts of the Federal Republic, and that an eye is being kept on the goings-on in Munich.

The games are a communal concern not only from the financial point of view. Nobody can be overjoyed at the way the roof covering for the stadium, though architecturally ell designed, has presented so many difficulties which will make all estimates of cost way off the beam.

Somehow the problems will be overcome and the work will be completed. As far as financing the venture is concerned it must not be forgotten that 500 million Marks from television screening rights, the Olympia lottery, the right to reproduce the Olympic emblem and various other sources will swell the kitty. This is without taking the donations of charitable organisations and special postage stamps into consideration, sources which have already drummed up a seven figure sum in Marks.

When the three cooperating sponsors, the State, Bavaria and the City of Munich, have managed to bridge the financial gap, the task ahead of them will be pleasurable and positive. This will be to provide Munich with an underground railway, modern traffic connections, excellent sports grounds and new satellite towns, which will serve as the Olympic village and the press and communications centre during the games. New places of entertainment and refreshment will also be provided.

The battle between the presidents of three honorary commissions of the organising committee and General Secretary Herbert Kunze has been observed from outside.

But the aspect of Munich after the Games has only been looked upon with disapproval elsewhere.

Threats of resignation if the General Secretary was not dismissed from his post have come to nothing. Naturally there may be some question of resignation or changes in personnel in the organising committee's headquarters. If there are substantial reasons for this it will come in the normal course of events.

It has actually accurred already in the company contracted to build the Olympic stadium. But this is always the case before Olympics. There were wholesale changes in personnel at the last moment in Italy, Japan, France and at the last Games in Mexico. This is all right as long as it is not the outcome of rivalry. It mus only be the background to the main event, the largest (and unfortunately over-large) sporting festival in the world.



An artist's model of the controversial Olympic stadium roof which has finally been approved after a series of battles and arguments.

(Photo: Organisationskomitee für die Spiele der XX Olympiade München 1972)

In three years time nobody will be bothered about the real or artificial tempers and tantrums which clouded the Olympic sky. The world and its neighbour will have their eyes firmly fixed on the sporting events between 26 August and 10 September 1972.

What others may consider exceptional the people in this country will look upon as part of the service. One African sportsman said: "The people in the Federal Republic will do us proud and organise magnificent Olympics."

If this aim is to be achieved cooperation will be needed from many willing hands and people who consider it worthwhile to organise magnificent Games.

They must treat the task with kid gloves and not rush at it like a bull at a gate. They must keep in good humour and not just show grim determination.

What they must remember is the slogan which Munich has chosen for itself: the international city with a heart! And this must be kept in mind by newspaper readers in Munich who find themselves faced with gloomy tales of forthcoming disaster.

The road to Olympia 72, it must be remembered, is not paved with politics and kudos, nor with regional or personal vanity. The essence of the occasion is a sporting festival, and the greatest in the world.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 26 August 1969)

Hans Fassnacht in America

Do you know what you would look like after a slimming course? If you had lost nearly two stone you would hardly recognise your own reflection in the mirror.

This is how I felt when I met Hans Fassnacht again some months ago. I was never quite sure to whom I was talking. Ruthless training sessions in the USA had cut his weight from just over thirteen stone to about eleven and a half stone.

His reward for the sacrifice: one world record and three European records. "Don Gambril's plan was to have me swim the 400 metres crawl in under four minutes, the 1,500 metres in under sixteen minutes and the 200 metres butterfly in less than 2 minutes 5 seconds. For the first of these I am quite content with the world record of 4:04 for the time being. As for the rest I hope to achieve these times this year or next.

"The real goal is Munich 1972. Until then other standards will have to be set. I must decide, myself, whether to go for the 400 metres or 1,500 metres at the Olympics. Someone is going to swim these distances in 3:56.0 and 15:30.0."

Hans Fassnacht says that he is happy in America. He is not at all homesick His cruel training schedules should only last till 1972. Meantime he is having to study as well–business management is his subject.

At Oxford or Cambridge it would not be possible for him to combine studies and training lasting three hours a day. The tutors would never stand for having a washed-out student in their seminars.

In the USA different conditions seem to prevail. Hans Fassnacht swims about eight miles daily, varying his style of course. When he returns to Long Beach, California he shares a modern apartment with an American swimmer.

The Federal Republic Sports Aid Association pays 100 dollars a month towards Fassnacht's keep in America and his parents add another 50 dollars. The remainder (about 50 to 70 dollars) the 18 year-old swimmer from Mannheim earns himself. Sometimes he makes this money from washing dishes, sometimes as a lifeguard at a private swimming pool.

At home he would never have become a world-beater. In this country there is a lack of opposition, well-paid trainers and, above all, the sort of climate California can offer.

Willi Nehls, the Federal Republic Swimming Association's masseur claims that the California sun has a marvellous effect on Fassnacht's muscles. Nobody is so nimble and agile as he and nobody quite so well shaven. (Although it is not widely known, record-breaking swimmers shave their whole body before big races. And they have to call on someone to shave their back, as well. Cuts must be reckoned with.)

Hans Fassnacht refused to agree to trainer Don Gambril's advice to shave his head, too. "Don is no barber and so I said a firm no..."

The man in the street tends to think that a modern-day record breaker must have been swimming before he could walk. Fassnacht knows better: "I was always terrified of water. I cried and yelled when I was told to go into a swimming pool. When I was ten I asked a bather what it was like to jump in the deep end and if you came up again, and what did you do to keep from drowning. Finally I plucked up courage and ended my fear of water."

Today Hans Fassnacht is virtually a whole national swimming team. At the first European Cup in Würzburg he entered for four individual races and won the lot! Added to this he took part in two team events.

If anyone is gasping for breath at the mere thought of this, Hans Fassnacht would like to point out that two weeks ago in the US championships at Louisville he entered eleven races and finished with a world record.

When asked if he is interested in other sports Fassnacht said: "As a boy I put the shot 48.5 feet. Apart from that I am interested in football and support Bayern Munich."

Harry Valérien

(DIE ZEIT, 29 August 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
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Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft. 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30 —
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1 —
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d

■ NEWS MEDIA

Deutsche Welle celebrates its fortieth anniversary

Deutsche Welle's past, present and future were united in Wertachtal, Bavaria, on 26 August 1969. The radio service now broadcasts 89 programme hours daily in thirty different languages and fulfils its contract to provide short wave listeners all over the world with a comprehensive picture of political, cultural and economic life in this country.

On the occasion of Deutsche Welle's fortieth anniversary the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Dr Werner Dollinger, laid the foundation stone for a new short wave radio station. Director-General Walter Steigner, said that the radio service, which is known as the Voice of the Federal Republic, would soon be audible in all parts of the world for the first time.

The first short wave transmitter in Germany officially commenced operations on 26 August 1929 in a building in Königs-Wusterhausen. Its eight-kilowatt output meant that it could be received in many countries.

"An awe-inspiring technological achievement which united whole continents," was President Gustav Heinemann's summary of Deutsche Welle on its fortieth anniversary. With all due respect to history, the present and future have an equal claim to awe.

The planned new buildings in Wertachtal are expected to cost 300 million Marks. Only the first stage will be completed by 1973. Dr Dollinger called the plans unique in the Western hemisphere.

On a site three and a half square miles in area of the largest short wave stations in the world will be built. Twenty-four transmitters will be installed each with an output of 500 kilowatts. They will be the first short wave transmitters of such power in the world that can be controlled automatically.

This means in practice that they can be remote-controlled by a computer which will be reprogrammed every three months from Cologne headquarters. It will calculate which transmitter should broadcast over which aerial at which frequency to which country. The computer will then carry out all the required switching processes.

Five of the transmitters should be ready in 1972 in time for the Munich Olympics. The deadline for completion is 26 August. Test equipment for the first transmitter should be ready by December 1971.

Walter Steigner looks upon the laying of the foundation stone as a pointer to the way ahead and a relief in the task of programme planning.

The present establishment at Jülich with its ten 100-kilowatt transmitters has long since proved unsuitable for being enlarged to meet new requirements. This has meant that even the most strenuous efforts of programme planners have shown no lasting effects and that the future would present even greater problems unless a new station could be built.

Walter Steigner summed up the situation thus: "Deutsche Welle can be heard from Jülich over a very wide area with the help of our first relay station in Africa. We receive over 100,000 letters annually testifying to this.

"But we are receiving more and more complaints that reception is poor in this or that corner of the globe at a certain time of night or day in one season or another.

"This means that there are places where only communist stations can be picked up and listeners in these places have no choice of programme between East and West. This is a matter which must be treated seriously.

"If communist agitation is being broadcast to India from the Soviet Union in a dozen dialects and Western stations can only manage to put over the occasional broadcast in a couple of dialects with the present equipment, then it is obvious that that equipment must be replaced with something more efficient.



The same applies to Africa, where communist propaganda must be counterbalanced by the West's point of view.

"Not only the larger nations, but also many small ones, particularly communist, are extending their short wave coverage, boosting output and building relay stations, since the Soviet Union can take advantage of its vast area. For safety's sake the Federal Republic can not afford to fall behind these developments."

Wertachtal's new station has not come too late. Claims that it will become the last word in technology are based on very real suppositions and extremely careful and efficient planning. A new centre for contact betweens nations is being built. There are practically no limits to its technical possibilities — let us hope that its humanitarian scope is just as unlimited.

(Handelsblatt, 28 August 1969)

dpa in operation for 20 years

Twenty years ago Deutsche Pr Agentur (dpa) began operations. Dpa formed from the three agencies that been operating in the allied zones occupation.

Dpa is an independent agency offering a service to newspapers and radio stations in this country. In the past twenty years the agency has established bureaux in countries or is represented by free journalists.

Dpa works in cooperation with agencies in East and West and offers clients in this country a daily supply news items totalling about 110 words.

In addition dpa sends out topical feature stories to clients all over the world in German, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic. The agency deals with 1,000 reports daily in languages and about 60 radio photographs giving an over-all view of important and most interesting events round the clock and all over the world.

Its telecommunications network operates 24 hours a day and extends approximately over 30,000 miles. The network is built up of 208 associate companies in this country's printing and broadcasting organisations.

The agency's articles of association, drawn up in 1949, guarantee the agency's independence, particularly at editorial level, from the influence of political parties, intellectuals, economists, finance groups and government. These articles contain extensive safety measures against influential cliques and groups forming within the agency and its associates.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 30 August 1969)

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

One of the world's top ten

When a newspaper ranks as one of the ten best in the world, both its coverage and its editorial contents assume international significance. Twice the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung has been named one of the ten best newspapers of the world. The first time, in 1963, by professors of the Journalism Department of Syracuse University in New York. The second time, in 1964, by the professors of 26 institutes in the United States.
"Zeitung für Deutschland" ("Newspaper for Germany") is a designation that reflects both the Frankfurter Allgemeine's underlying purpose and, more literally, its circulation — which covers West Berlin and the whole of the Federal Republic. In addition to 140 editors and correspondents of its own, the paper has 450 "stringers" reporting from all over Germany and around the world. 280,000 copies are printed daily, of which 210,000 go to subscribers. 20,000 are distributed abroad, and the balance is sold on newsstands. Every issue is read by at least four or five persons. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung is the paper of the businessman and the politician, and indeed of everyone who matters in the Federal Republic.
For anyone wishing to penetrate the German market, the Frankfurter Allgemeine is a must. In a country of many famous newspapers its authority, scope, and influence can be matched only at an international level.

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ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 30 September 1969
Eighth year - No. 390 - by air

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Gromyko as hard as ever at the United Nations



Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's performance at the United Nations General Assembly has not made it easier for the West to discover signs of willingness to come to an understanding in Moscow's attitude.

The speeches made by himself and President Nixon at the opening of the session only bore out the total lack of flexibility that has dominated relations between the two major nuclear powers for months.

It was a sterile dialogue and even less progress can be expected of the autumn UN session than in the past.

The Soviet Union is none too happy about the new approach adopted towards policy on the Eastern Bloc by President Nixon. The President's style differs from that of Mr Johnson, who intensively wooed the Kremlin, in that even in apparently secondary procedural matters he meets Moscow not an iota more than halfway.

Moscow is finding it hard to accustom itself to the change. The Russians are irritated that President Nixon has adopted precisely the same tactics as themselves and is not pressing for a date to be named for commencement of the strategic arms limitation talks.

Foreign Minister Gromyko took an unpromising stand on every single issue outstanding between the two powers. He not only brusquely rejected President Nixon's appeal to UN members to induce Hanoi to negotiate seriously on Vietnam. He also rejected the arms embargo proposed by Mr Nixon as a means of stabilising the situation in the Middle East.

Mr Gromyko presented the West with a catalogue of maximum demands that showed nothing of the flexibility to which Moscow is reputed to be tending in view of the conflict with Peking.

Israel, America and this country in particular were the principal butts of these maximum demands. All three were called on to surrender unconditionally in one way or another. Israel was to withdraw from the occupied territories, America clear out of Vietnam and this country to recognise the "German Democratic Republic" and with it the Oder-Neisse and Elbe frontiers — and all without the slightest hint of counter-concessions.

What Mr Gromyko did not mention was more informative than the tiring repetition of well-known Soviet demands. For the first time in years a Soviet Foreign Minister did not mention Chinese admission to the UN in his General Assembly address.

The meeting between Premiers Kosygin and Chou En-lai has evidently not overcome the low in relations between the two countries. The regional security system for Asia proposed by Foreign Minister Gromyko is viewed by the Chinese as a threat of encirclement.

Mr Gromyko may have referred to the President's slogan of "negotiation, not confrontation" but he did no name a date for the commencement of strategic arms limitation talks. It is now fifteen months since the two countries signed the non-proliferation treaty, in which they undertook to act in good will on the issue.

Nor did the Soviet Foreign Minister deal with the two memoranda in which Moscow replied to the Berlin proposals made by the Western Allies and to the Federal government's note on an exchange of renunciations of the use of force. He contented himself with warming up the Warsaw Pact initiative for a European security conference.

Instead Mr Gromyko intervened in the domestic affairs of this country in a manner exceeding anything Soviet interventionism has so far allowed itself in the course of the election campaign. One of the Bonn Grand Coalition parties was equated with the Neo-Nazis, revanchists and the National Democrats.

The only conclusion possible is that the Kremlin feels the other coalition party to be the better. Is not this frank attempt to influence the outcome of the 28 September general election likely enough to achieve the opposite to what is intended?

Foreign Minister Gromyko's assurance that the Soviet Union is prepared to improve relations with the Federal Republic is not rendered more credible by excesses of this kind. They have an aftertaste of political aggression reminiscent of the claims Moscow adduced from the enemy-state articles of the UN Charter.

Willy Brandt's tenet that the two Soviet memoranda on Berlin and renunciation of the use of force bear witness to a certain degree of flexibility is hardly supported by Andrei Gromyko's UN speech.

It is true that recognition of the existence of the "German Democratic Republic" is all that is demanded and that the Soviet note refers to West Berlin as a special political unit rather than as an independent one but what will remain of such microscopic particles of goodwill once the election campaign is over? Foreign Minister Brandt certainly felt the two notes to be important enough to warrant interruption of the election campaign for a lightning visit to New York.

Bonn nonetheless has every reason to be disappointed by Mr Gromyko's speech. No one aware of the consuming interest the Soviet Union has in signature of the non-proliferation treaty by this country will be surprised that in contrast to previous election campaigns the Kremlin this time seems to prefer a Social Democratic victory and a Social and Free Democratic coalition.

This should not, however, be confused with liberalisation of Soviet policy on Germany. The impression to be gained at the UN is that the Soviet leadership has grown more rigid and more hostile to compromise and declined in political format. It appears to be a collective of bureaucrats in which since the Czech crisis the military men and the hardliners have dominated.

Heinz Barth

(DIE WELT, 22 September 1969)

The Middle Eastern diet!

(Cartoon: Murschetz/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

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Are cinder tracks a thing of the past?

Tito and Ceausescu meet at Danube's Iron Gates

Meetings between heads of state Tito and Ceausescu are already routine. The two men mainly discovered their common interests after the invasion of Czechoslovakia. Their meetings assumed the character of an alliance against Moscow's claims to hegemony.

A number of events have taken place in both the Balkans and the communist world since the Yugoslav and Rumanian leaders last met at the beginning of this year. President Nixon has visited Rumania and Foreign Minister Gromyko Yugoslavia.

This alone characterises the difficult foreign policy tighttrope walk the two countries have to negotiate. Rumania seeks better relations with the West. Yugoslavia would like to patch up ties with Moscow. For both countries the dangers are not inconsiderable.

Both are more or less overshadowed by Big Brother USSR and their eventual success or failure will largely depend on the reaction of the Soviet Union. It was this realisation that originally brought Yugoslavia and Rumania together.

Cooperation is now to be continued in practice. A number of joint industrial projects already exist, the Iron Gate Danube power station, for instance. Their number is to be increased. Rumours also persist that the two countries are aiming at military cooperation. Moscow will surely take a dim view of this undesirable by-product of its policies.

(Handelsblatt, 19 September 1969)



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Kosygin's surprise visit to Chou En-lai

MOSCOW FEARS AMERICA-CHINA DIALOGUE

The Russians and the Chinese are on top-level speaking terms again. The news of the meeting between Soviet Premier Kosygin and his Chinese opposite number Chou En-lai shows once again that anything is possible among Communists of whatever shade of opinion or degree of mutual amity.

The two men had steered a clear berth of one another at the funeral ceremonies for Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi. The Chinese Premier flew back home before Mr Kosygin even arrived. What will now have decided the Soviet head of government to disregard protocol and stop over in Mao Tse-tung's Peking?

Premier Kosygin, it is reported, intended warning Chou En-lai against continuing anti-Soviet frontier provocation. He issued a similar warning in Prague early in 1968, using language that contrasted clearly with the sabre-rattling statements of Soviet generals.

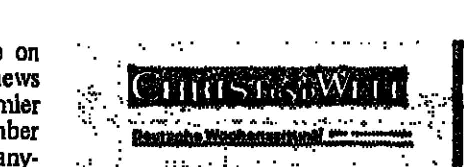
It could also be that the Soviet head of government, who is known to be a moderate and understanding man, had a domestic policy aim in view in calling on Chou.

The more serious the Sino-Soviet conflict becomes, the greater the influence of the Soviet general staff becomes in the Kremlin. Premier Kosygin may accordingly be considered to have made an attempt to dispute the generals' monopoly of the Chinese question. It remains to be seen whether he can be successful.

This, however, will not have been the solo motive. There are a whole number of other reasons that may have decided Mr Kosygin to stop over in Peking. The propaganda value, for instance, is substantial. The Soviet Union has shown itself to be ready to talk regardless of prestige considerations, so temporarily taking the wind out of the sails of accusations levelled by a number of communist sources.

The situation in China itself must also have been on Premier Kosygin's mind. Moscow can be awaiting few events more impatiently that the demise of Mao Tse-tung. From the Soviet viewpoint it would be useful to maintain certain contacts and show possible contestants for the succession that the Kremlin is not necessarily prepared to go the whole hog.

The Soviet general staff understandably thinks in terms of military categories and no doubt advocates a military solution to the Chinese question. Premier Kosygin, on the other hand, well knows



what catastrophic political consequences a Soviet pre-emptive strike would have, even were it to be militarily successful.

In its disputes with China the Soviet Union has often enough lost face. Premier Kosygin's stopover was not least an attempt to regain some. Moscow intended it to be seen that it takes the political testament of Ho Chi Minh seriously.

Soviet readiness to talk could also just possibly be an involuntary result of the new American policy on China. In the days of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson Washington, when faced with a choice between Moscow and Peking, invariably and unconditionally opted for the Soviet Union and against the Chinese. There was no question of an agreement between the United States and mainland China to which the Soviet Union was not also a signatory, still less of one directed against the Soviet Union.

President Nixon, on the other hand, has intimated that his mind is not necessarily made up; his trip to Rumania, for instance, was a symbolic gesture. If he was unable to talk with the Russian Communists, the visit indicated, he would talk with other Communists, now the Rumanians, at a later stage maybe the Chinese. The slightest suggestion of an American opening towards Peking cannot but give rise to anxiety in Moscow.

The Soviet leaders, or at any rate the more thoughtful of them, realise that the future in Asia does not promise to be any too easy for the Kremlin. The Japanese have already announced territorial demands.

At a juncture at which this country is well on the way to forgoing its territorial demands Japan has made categorical demands to both the Soviet Union and the United States for the return of the Kurile and Okinawa islands, occupied in 1945.

Should the United States eventually return Okinawa, what possible reason could the Soviet Union give for refusing to hand over the Kurile islands? In the long term a Sino-Japanese front could emerge with the aim of a revision of the Soviet Union's eastern frontier.

It is interesting to note that the Soviet Union in neither China's nor Japan's case talks in terms of revanchism. Yet the two countries' territorial demands in Asia are far more serious and represent far more of a threat for the Soviet Union than this country's wishes.

Asia is the problem child of Soviet foreign policy, as Peking well knows. Chou En-lai will agree with Alexei Kosygin that politics cannot in the long run be pursued by irrational means. He will not harbour illusions as to the Soviet Union's direct military superiority.

The Chinese Premier will be all the more intent on elevating the conflict to higher regions of politics. The present no-holds-barred ideological struggle could develop into a duel of rapier thrusts and parries. The two neighbouring empires will nonetheless continue to have conflicting interests.

Carl Gustav Ströhm

(CHRIST UND WELT, 19 September 1969)

Good relations maintained with Arab World

Gerhard Jahn, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Foreign Office, reiterated the Federal government's desire for good relations with both Israel and the Arab countries in a speech given in Berlin on 17 September.

He emphasised that even after the recognition of the German Democratic Republic by five Arab countries the Federal government would not be misled into pursuing anti-Arab policies.

The government, he said, was determined to make very effort to strengthen traditional political, economic and cultural links with Arab countries in the Mediterranean and to work together with the Arabs in overcoming their problems.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 September 1969)



Common Market waffles indecisively

WILLY BRANDT TALKS OF 'SHIPPING LANES'

European spectators would probably be at a loss to explain the general tenor of feeling about the Common Market within the Six at the moment. To everyone's satisfaction the Foreign Ministers of Benelux, France, Italy and this country agreed in a matter of hours in Brussels on the date for an EEC summit.

Yet on the same day they reached the conclusion that there would be no common trade policy during the transition period prior to the final stage of the community, so closing one door after having opened the other.

An enlargement of the Common Market is to be discussed at the summit but the EEC itself is to be perfect, or as perfect as human hands can make it, prior to enlargement it has evidently been decided to live with contradictions for a while at least in the expectation that they will not lead to conflict and prove easy of solution at some future date.

For the time being, an EEC summit overshadows the gaps and inadequacies.

The summit is to be held without reservations but warnings have been issued to the effect that failure would have a bombshell effect. The Foreign Ministers and their governments have summoned up courage to take the risk.

A summit was proposed by French Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann before the summer recess and after France and this country had agreed on the date the French formula for the topics to be discussed — perfection, intensification and expansion of the EEC — was accepted.

At the summit the three points will need to be linked by means of both logic and skilful negotiation. Dutch Foreign Minister Joseph Luns, President of the EEC Council of Ministers from July to December this year, has stated by way of explanation that though there may not be a legal link between the three topics there certainly is a political one.

Since all six countries agreed to the conference decision all must be agreed that the Common Market summit due to be held on 17 and 18 November in The Hague will be a mainly political occasion.

General problem of Political Cooperation in Europe is to be the first item on the five-point draft agenda drawn up by the Foreign Ministers of the Six. It is immediately followed by Expansion of the Community.

Differences of opinion will promptly come to the fore. Is political cooperation to be limited to the existing Common Market, is it to be postponed until new members have joined or are there to be transitional agreements with prospective members?

Debate on this item is the most crucial for the success of the conference. After recent talks with Foreign Minister Brandt in Bonn. Foreign Minister Luns, an almost intransigent advocate of British membership, made a subtle distinction. Political cooperation, he stated, should commence when prospective members are in the process of becoming members.

Whatever the upshot of the summit is it is to be welcomed that talks about expansion of the Common Market are taking place at all. They take all concerned one step nearer arranging a date for entry negotiations to start. What is more, the summit *has* to name the dates.

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

The six governments made this virtually compulsory by agreeing to the holding of a summit in the first place. This is what M. Schumann meant when he noted that in a certain sense the conference could not fail to be a success.

Another gratifying factor is that the EEC Commission in Brussels, the guardian of supranationality within the community, is to take part in the talks where the occasion arises. France, tortured by less sensitivity than under General de Gaulle, consented. Old grievances against the commission seem gradually to be declining in importance in the French capital.

Fresh wind has been blown into the EEC's sails, much to the surprise of a number of Common Market Foreign Ministers, M. Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg, for instance. Others chose other figures of speech. Willy Brandt of this country talks in terms of a shipping lane being reopened, Maurice Schumann of France of de-icing.

The obstacles in the way of British Common Market entry, *The Times* of 16 September on the other hand wrote, are due more to Britain's own contradictory attitude than to uncontrollable factors beyond Britain's frontiers.

Exactly two months remain for preparation. What Bonn government will be represented? How will the economic problems of France and Italy have developed? Whatever happens, the decision to hold the conference is binding. Prior efforts by all concerned have been worth while.

Maxim Fackler

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 17 September 1969)

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BERLIN

Klaus Schütz still tries with East Berlin

CONTACTS HAVE NEVER BEEN COMPLETELY BROKEN OFF

"He is blowing on the ashes." This was the spontaneous comment of many Berliners, when their governing mayor, Klaus Schütz, stated three weeks ago that he could still see the possibility for negotiations with the German Democratic Republic. Circumstances did not permit a definite conclusion to be drawn.

Now, however, it has been proved that there is still a glow beneath the ashes. Schütz knew it.

Relations between Bonn and East Berlin have *never* been completely broken. It is *only the* agreement on intra-zone trade which keeps the discussions going.

Even Herbert Wehner whose office is constantly being attacked in the Socialist Unity Party press as "the ministry for anti-socialist aggitation" is not without contact with Fast Berlin.

Against this background it has come as unexpected but not completely surprising that a four-man delegation from the Federal Transport Ministry has been attending discussions in the Transport Ministry in the other part of Germany to discuss more cordial relations in several spheres.

What is a great source of surprise is the inconsistency of SED politicians. They refuse to come to terms which would permit a relieving of inhuman conditions in a divided Germany because these cannot help relieve the "burning questions of European security".

But when it is a question not of human but of economic and political interests in the GDR mutual understanding on such topics suddenly does not seem so urgent and the danger which they alleged is presented by the Federal Republic does not seem so threatening.

Discussions on the intrezonal traffic situation are not the expression of a basic change of orientation in East Berlin's all-Germany policy. They have simply arisen because in the Soviet Zone interest is entirely centred on the outcome of discussions. Successful talks would also make a better impression in the Eastern Bloc than the distructive attitude which the GDR government has adopted to date.

Details of such contacts are not uttered very often or very willingly in in Bonn since East Berlin wants as little publicity as possible of its own ambiguous attitude.

But it has become known that negotiators in the Federal Republic, particularly Wolfgang von Dorrer, are keen to discuss the questions or road-building, navigation on internal waterways and posts. An agreement about the use of the so-called potash railway on which Federal Republic freight-trains carrying potash in north Hesse travelled six miles into the GDR up until a short while ago was almost ready for signature right at the beginning of the talks. Officials of railway companies in both parts of Germany had already had talks.

On the question of inland navigation the main concern is mutual transit permits which will give ships from the Soviet Zone free passage to the West and ships from the Federal Republic free access to east and south-east Europe.

Negotiations on road-building will be concentrated on coordinated planning and the linking up of stretches of autobahn which are already built.

Finally the Minister of Posts and Communications, Werner Dollinger, has expressed the wish that problems concerning the post can be touched upon. He is seeking a compromise in the question of levelling the costs of both postal administrations and he is striving for an improvement in the telephone systems.

Solely this grouping of the problems marks progress. For much too long the right hand did not know what the left was doing with the result that the Bundesbahn completed an agreement in 1964 which East Berlin could consider with some justification to be an international pact whereas the postal authorities insisted that levelling of costs could only be achieved on the basis of inland rates.

Traffic between the Federal Republic and Berlin will not be directly discussed at the talks. But the fact that negotiations on this problem will be set against a background of queues of cars at checkpoints, random arrests and other chicanery is not a good starting point.

The GDR would presumably like to demonstrate to Western and Eastern countries alike just who has the right of way on the roads to Berlin. Nevertheless negotiators from Bonn should make it clear that such hindrances are not the way to promote cordial relations with this country.

Joachim Nawrocki

(DIE ZEIT, 19 September 1969)

Gerhard Stoltenberg appeals for more technological contacts with the GDR

In a comparative report upon the conditions in scientific research in both parts of Germany the Federal Government has announced that it is ready to make contact with East Berlin.

Scientific Research Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg stated in Bonn as a clarification of the Bundestags revised attitude that both parts of Germany should give new life to the almost completely negected exchange of scientific data.

He regretted that offers to negotiate made so far by this country had found no echo in the GDR.

The comparative report which is based on the judgment of Federal Republic scientists confirms that this country has a lead on the GDR in the spheres of modern natural sciences, even if the difference in size of the two sectors of this country is taken into consideration.

In certain specific areas of science, however, the Federal Republic has some ground to make up on the GDR, for instance in research into plant viruses, mathematical statistics, numercial mathematics, theory of probability and theoretical cybernetics.

On account of the comparatively large political element in branches of science which have social connections such as economics, current affairs, law sociology and history it would be difficult for this country to come to terms with the Soviet Zone.

It is generally been confirmd that the GDR in the spheres of science and research ranks second in the Easten Bloc, behind the Soviet Union.

The numbers of students in recent years in the Federal Republic and the GDR have developed in different directions. In the Federal Republic they have increased between 1955 and 1967 continuously from just over 144,000 to nearly 317,000. In the Soviet Zone between *1955* and *1963* they increased from about 75,000 to roughly 116,000 but then dropped back to 106,500 in 1967.

(Münchner Merkur, 16 September 1969)

Benda makes moves to introduce administrative reform

SURVEY UNDERLINES URGENT NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT

In good time before election day the "Ministry of the Interior Project Group" has put forward three plans for the reorganisation of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI).

Speed was called for, since the reformation of such a large and important a ministry can best be carried out during the formation of a new Federal Government.

The project group, set up by Minister of the Interior Ernst Benda, was presided over by senior civil servant Rüdiger Göb and included Professor Roman Schnur of the Speyer School of Administration, Kurt Martini, head of the Finance and Statistics Department at the Mauser factory in Cologne, and Eberhard Laux, a director of an economic advisory company in Düsseldorf, as well as other ministerial officials.

The fact that Ernst Benda was prepared to hand over his department to the group as a "testing ground" underlines how important the study was.

They were able to try out possibilities for modernisation in the Federal government and Civil Service and see them in practice as working models.

It is not only Ernst Benda who considers that reform of administration and the public services will be one of the trickiest and most important points to be dealt with in the new legislative session.

The Project Group makes great demands on administrators. Its starting point is that demands on individual ability and efficiency will become even greater in state administration than in company management. Public administration, it claims, should not merely follow boardroom developments hesitantly but should show them the way.

In the foreground ot its estimation of the Ministry of the Interior's efficiency the Project Group places the process of formulation of political decisions. It bases its criticism on two observations:

Firstly, within the present structure of ministries there is not sufficient room for the consideration of critieria for decisions independent of political goals — a finding which aslo applies to other Federal ministries.

Secondly, the traditional form of organisation does not consider the necessity of basing managerial decisions on thorough preparation carried out by the entire managerial staff as a cooperative group. The "isolated situation of the minister", which consistently makes unsystematic remedial measures necessary must be overcome, says the Project Group.

The group approaches its aim of increasing the efficiency of the Ministry of the Interior as an instrument of political direction from two opposite starting points.

Of the three models, alternatives Ia and Ib aim to create "a cooperative style of leadership based on a small circle of top staff working closely together"; they foresee the institution of two General Divisional Directors.

Model II, on the other hand, lays weight on a reformation of the substructure, which is at present represented by 92 departmental sections. The new basic unit would consist of the "group", which would take in several of these sections. In this way the number of departments in the Ministry could be lowered, and the Divisional Directors would gain a better foundation for their work in the Managerial Conference.

The details of the three models are as follows:

Model Ia: Working directly under the Secretary of State there would be a Staff Group (the old management advisory, press, public relations and situation briefing sections, plus an information office), as well as the central department and a department dealing with constitutional and public law.

The remaining departments would be brought under two major divisions, thus doing away with sub-departments, The State Secretary would be the senior of the General Divisional Directors; however, in certain cases, they would be able to take matters direct to the Minister.

Model Ib: This differs from Model Ia in the provision that the State Secretary would not be the senior of the General Divisional Directors.

Model II: The Planning Group would be placed directly under the Minister. The departmental sections would be reconstituted in new "groups", arranged in four or five departments. The Secretary State remains the superior of the divisional directors.

The project group recommends the models in the order Ib, II, Ia. This shows that it was free of the necessity of testing their viability.

Where in Bonn could a Secretary State be found who would allow the function of overall director of all of the departments in the Ministry to be taken from him, as laid out in model Ib?

Where is the Minister who would allow a palace revolution in the departmental sections to come about, when these very sections carry the main burden of the work in every Ministry, and what section would defend the independence which Model II intends to take from it?

What minister would be prepared to give up his personal staff by losing it— apart from his own section— to the State Secretary as a staff group?

How could this staff group in any way do justice to its new task as an institutionalised advisory office, although it only consists of departmental sections, which the Ministry already has?

As long as there has been no general decision on the rank of the parliamentary State Secretaries success in proposing a reorganisation plan for the Ministry of the Interior is unlikely.

The value of this study, therefore, lies in its having pointed out the dire necessity of developing the large Federal Ministries into up-to-date instruments of political administration.

Wilfried Hertz-Eichenrode

(DIE WELT, 18 September 1969)

SOVIET ZONE

Flowers instead of cauliflowers

DISTRIBUTION SUCCESSES AND FAILURES IN THE GDR

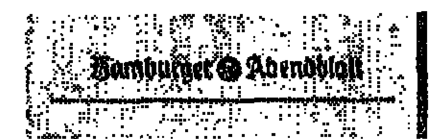
For weeks on end there were no vegetables in some towns in the region of Magdeburg at the beginning of this year. No peas, no carrots, no beans and hardly any cabbage.

The reason? The area's vegetable combine at Schönebeck on the banks of the Elbe was switched last autumn to floriculture and people had forgotten to make other arrangements for vegetable supplies.

This sort of breakdown occurs from time to time in the "German Democratic Republic" (GDR). But it should not be allowed to conceal the fact that the East Berlin government has managed to increase agricultural production on collective farms in the GDR in the last few years after a period of shortage and deprivation.

By 1966 food production in the GDR had risen by third over the pre-war figures. The GDR is even well on the way to becoming self sufficient in the production of sugar, milk, eggs, potatoes, butter and rye.

But the satisfaction of the SED government over agricultural production in the



GDR is tinged with bitterness. The growth of production in the Federal Republic is far greater. When the average yield per acre is considered the Federal Republic is fifteen per cent higher. For sugar the figure reaches 35 per cent and with potatoes as high as fifty per cent. The GDR has a slight lead though when it comes to sugarbeet.

In the last ten years the government in East Berlin has pumped 7,000 million East Marks into agriculture. The number of tractors has doubled to 140,000 since 1960 and the number of combine harvesters (18,000) is three times as high. Increased efforts are planned in order to catch up the Federal Republic's lead.

Last year the Socialist Unity Party (SED) decided that agriculture should be further concentrated. This means a further reduction in the number of agricultural production cooperatives (LPG) which already decreased in number between 1960 and 1967 from 19,000 to 13,000. New, larger cooperatives will swallow LPGs, the area of tillage will be increased and so will the yield. Plans are ready for gigantic cowsheds holding 1,000 to 2,000 cattle.

Pressure on the smaller LPGs is being increased. Many farmers are reminded of the bitter days in the spring of 1960 when their farms were forcibly collectivised. But in the middle of May this year the Central Committee Secretary responsible for agriculture, Grüneberg, criticised over-eager village party functionaries like a bolt from the blue and warned them about over-hasty action. East Berlin obviously wants to prevent new unrest among the farming community.

Apart from model farms there is among the LPGs of the German Democratic Republic a number of cooperatives that have managed to escape state control by a variety of tricks. Reports about the book-keeping at an LPG to the south of Magdeburg, for example, sound like tomfoolery or a practical joke.

This LPG is not one of the best in the GDR. It only just comes up to the average. It has long-term debts for the construction of stalls and living quarters which amount to several million East Marks. Many short term debts must be added to this when machines have to be bought. Last year 68,000 East Marks should have been paid off debts incurred in the purchase of machines. It was decided that prompt settlement would decrease the remaining debts by thirty per cent. If a payment was missed interest of 5.5 per cent had to be paid on the arrears over and above the usual rates.

The chairman of the LPG and his accountant thought up a trick. They sold thirty cows for about 70,000 East Marks and a few days later bought thirty more on credit as no animal was to be missing on the annual stock-taking.

At the end of the agricultural year the LPG used the money gained from the sale of the cows to pay off the debts due on the machinery and qualified for the thirty per cent credit discount.

The accountant's main worry now is where to find the money for the thirty new animals. He whispered to a friend, "Working on our LPG is like playing a flute, you fill one hole, leave another free. I'm always standing with one foot in jail."

LPG chairmen, like the one-time estate inspectors, are the uncrowned kings in villages in the GDR. They are responsible not only for production but also for the ideological training of farmers. These self-assured men have all attended the LPG university at Meissen and are the best paid people in the villages. Their salaries are fixed between 1,250 and 1,500 East Marks.

Other LPG members are paid according to fulfilment of quota. A milker on a fully collectivised LPG on the Magdeburg Börde receives 9.50 East Marks for every hundred litres of milk and by increasing his quota can earn about 550 or 600 East Marks a month. A tractor driver working ten hours a day in summer earns 320 Marks a month. At the end of the scale come labourers with a monthly wage of 215 Marks which corresponds to an hourly rate of 1.30 East Marks.

About three quarters of this is paid immediately. The rest comes at the end of the year so long as the undertaking has met its quota. On top of this come perquisites. Labourers receive eight hundredweight of grain and six hundredweight of potatoes. Hens owned privately by the farmers – more than half the total number – bring in further revenue.

But what the LPG farmer takes particular care of and even pampers is his own private cow. But before the cow is profitable the farmer must pay the LPG the equivalent of almost 200 gallons of milk for food rent for the stall. For every litre above this quota there is a rate of 65 Pfennigs. As good quality cows can give up to 280 gallons, a farmer can earn between 800 and 900 Marks a year from his animal.

The farmers' children find this life too laborious and too miserable. Many LPGs complain that there are too many old people and not enough young. On one LPG in the region of Magdeburg the average age of the farm labourers, five men and seven women, was 55. Only one person on the cooperative was under 30, a tractor driver who was not a local. Farmers say that their children fight to get away from the villages.

But most LPGs do not have the same worries about recruiting new blood as villages in the Federal Republic. Career advisers, employment exchanges and the Freie Deutsche Jugend, the communist youth organisation, apply more or less gentle pressure to channel youth off into the villages. Here attempts are made to win them over to agriculture, partly through nice-sounding titles. What was once know as a swineherd has now become an animal technician. And the applicant must have a school-leaving certificate.

More and more outsiders are invading the old villages. The one-time self-assured farmers live quietly on the periphery. Now they have their evenings free, they work to the clock and have two weeks in the year holiday. But they no longer have the freedom to decide what happens on their own farm.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 12 September 1969)

GDR radio takes a turn for the exciting

Radio GDR has the reputation for being excruciatingly boring. But sometimes things go wrong and we can hear something interesting on its wavelength.

One example was Eduard von Schnitzler's *Radio consulting hour*. One listener wrote in and asked, in effect, why the GDR leadership was so prone to diplomatic relations with reactionary governments.

After a few platitudes about international law Schnitzler went on to let a large cat out of the bag. "It must not be overlooked that diplomatic relations between socialist countries and countries with reactionary regimes can lead to certain opporutnities of directly supporting the struggle against imperialism."

It is scarcely possible to obtain a clearer confession of purposeful subversive activity by delegations from East Berlin which have been under the protection of diplomatic immunity ever since countries started to recognise the GDR.

Experts are not at all surprised by Eduard von Schnitzler's confession. But his answer is a further argument against demands to consider complete recognition of the GDR as a matter of course, as necessary and beneficial.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 September 1969)

On the way to a matriarchy

Girls in the GDR today will grow up to outdo men in several spheres in the seventies.

This is the forecast of a scientific work group reported by the West Berlin Information Bureau.

Girls' performances at school are already far better than those of the boys. But according to the scientific work group inhibitions are still to be overcome and conflict reconciled.

Parents are the main obstacle. When asked about the qualities of the "Woman of tomorrow" they replied, "She must be warm-hearted, interested in the home and demure."

"Technical interest" came in 37th position. These traditional views prevalent in many parents will gradually disappear in the next few years, claims the work group.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 16 September 1969)

Ulbricht booklet causes stir in West Berlin

An unpretentious broschure from the German Democratic Republic (GDR) is causing a bit of a stir in Berlin. Its title, *The GDR guarantees peaceful access to West Berlin*, sounded promising, but its content is not.

This slim 100-page volume has just been published by the GDR State publishers and repeats once again Ulbricht's well-known views on access routes to Berlin. It first came on sale more than two months ago and is an expanded version of an article that the author, Günter Görner, wrote for the East Berlin periodical *Deutsche Aussenpolitik* at the end of last year.

If any significance is to be read into the date when the book was published it would be better to consider it in the light of the election for the Federal President in Berlin than to suppose that the GDR wants to make maximum demands in the face of Gromyko's offer of Berlin talks.

Günter Görner has worked painstakingly. What he writes about international law, the right of transit from enclaves and inland countries corresponds to views predominant in the West. But the premises he builds on are unconvincing. He starts with the old precept that Berlin has been from the very beginning a part of the Soviet Zone and thus later part of the GDR. He completely ignores the London Protocol of 12 September 1944 which says, "Germany is to be divided into three zones... and the special area of Berlin which is to be administered by a three power occupation authority."

Of course he also maintains that there are no regulations about civilian transport to Berlin which bear the stamp of international law, apart from the agreement between the Federal Republic's railway company, the Bundesbahn and its opposite number in the GDR, the Reichsbahn.

He writes off the Jessup-Malik Agreement, signed after the blockade on 4 May 1949, as irrelevant even though it contains the following paragraph, "All restrictions which the Soviet government has imposed since March 1948 on transport and trade between Berlin and the Western zones as well as between the East zone and the Western zones will end on 12 May 1949."

The main interest of the volume lies in its indirect confirmation of views held by Western writers that recognition of the GDR would mean that access traffic to Berlin would be completely subject to the law and the benevolence of the GDR, unless decided differently at Allied level.

What this is all coming to follows from the fact that the author regards the GDR's sovereignty threatened because "news is transmitted from the Federal Republic to West Berlin that not only endangers the GDR's security but is also directed against peaceful coexistence between peoples."

This book is not to be interpreted as a sign of the intensification of the GDR's Berlin policy. Too much of the book is anachronistic. Görner still uses the term "independent political unit of West Berlin" whereas the GDR government recently thought up the new term of "special political unit".

At the Leipzig Trade Fair the new formula was used by foreign Economic Minister Sölle in his opening speech. Privately it could be heard that this was a new rule. This does not mean to say that policy will be changed, especially as the GDR's political attitude towards the Federal Republic remains as firm as ever. But there are also no indications of new tension.

Joachim Nawrocki

(DIE ZEIT, 12 September 1969)



HOME AFFAIRS

Looking back to events in 1949

THE ELECTION OF THE FIRST FEDERAL REPUBLIC CHANCELLOR

Konrad Adenauer was elected Federal Chancellor for the first time on 15 September 1949. His cabinet list was already prepared and he was able to hand it over immediately to Professor Theodor Heuss who had been elected Federal President three days previously.

The list contained fourteen names, the Chancellor's own and those of the thirteen Federal ministers. On 20 September, five days after Adenauer had been elected, the new Federal cabinet was sworn in. After the ceremony Adenauer made his first policy statement. It was the first and only time that a government was formed with such speed.

There had of course been a prelude about a month beforehand. On 21 August, a week after the first elections to the Bundestag, Adenauer had welcomed the top men in the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Christian Socialist Union (CSU) to his home in Rhöndorf.

A excellent buffet, a rarity in those days of shortage, and good wine contributed to the gay atmosphere of the meeting. As host and eldest present Konrad Adenauer took the chair. He immediately and firmly ruled out a coalition with the Social Democrats (SPD) advocated by several respected CDU politicians including Jacob Kaiser, Schlange-Schöningen, and Hilpert, the Hesse Minister of Finance. There was some opposition but discussion was frank.

In this sort of situation Adenauer would suggest a short break. He took advantage of this by exchanging a few words with colleagues. The guests sat down at the conference table again and Adenauer, as if everything had already been agreed, announced in a free and easy conversational tone, "We can then procced from the fact that the forthcoming government will be formed by the CDU/CSU, the Free Democrats (FDP) and Hellweg's Deutsche Partei (DP)..."

His guests looked at him thunderstruck, but Adenauer continued unperturbed. "We must now decide who is to fill the posts of Federal President and Federal Chancellor."

Immediately came the expected, perhaps prearranged cry, "I propose Dr Adenauer as Federal Chancellor." Adenauer looked around the assembled circle and as nobody said anything he interpreted the silence as assent. "If everybody is of the same opinion then," he said, "I have spoken with my doctor and he has no misgivings." In this way Adenauer, then almost 74 years old, continued his surprise manoeuvre which was only one of the many in his political career.

Adenauer continued, "Now we come to the Federal President. The FDP will be the second most powerful party in the forthcoming government. I therefore propose Professor Heuss as Federal President."

Adenauer was asked if Heuss knew anything about his good fortune. "Not yet," he replied. Heuss learnt of the suggestion from a newspaper. A representative from Bavaria had misgivings, "As far as I know Professor Heuss is not exactly a friend of the Church."

"But he has a very devout wife and that is enough," said Adenauer and put a stop to all converstion on this topic.

Even though the choice of Heuss soon rightly took exception to this manipulation with the highest office of state pulation with the highest office of state which Adenauer was to repeat ten years later because of his own changing ambitions.

Shortly after the meeting in Rhöndorf



Konrad Adenauer being sworn in as the first Federal Republic Chancellor (Photo: dpa)

Adenauer came to an agreement with the FDP and the DP about a coalition. It was decided that eight Federal ministers were to come from the CDU/CSU, three posts were to be given to the FDP and the DP was to receive two.

For Adenauer this meant a majority in the elections for the post of Federal Chancellor. Even so voting resulted in the narrowest margin allowed by Basic Law. Of the 402 members 202 voted for him, 142 against and 44 abstained. One vote was spoilt and several members were missing.

According to Basic Law the Chancellor must gain an absolute majority. And this Adenauer achieved only by one vote, his own, as some people scornfully point out. If he had not gained an absolute majority a simple majority over other candidates would have sufficed in a later election. The result of the original election on 15 September shows that he would have achieved this in any case.

Voting lasted for only 47 minutes. The election of the Federal Chancellor took place in silence. But the atmosphere was so tense that nerves would not have been more strained in a heated discussion.

When Bundestag president Dr Köhler announced Adenauer's narrow victory cheers rose from Adenauer supporters. But from the benches of the SPD and the Communist Party, then still represented in the Bundestag, the newly elected Chancellor was met by jeers and cat-calls.

One of the most respected SPD members in the Bundestag (he is still today one of the top men in the party) walked up to Adenauer and asked him in a mixture of irony and anger if he was going to accept the post having gained only one vote above the minimum. Adenauer's reply was cold and sarcastic, "Yes, Herr..., I accept the result of the election."

This was the beginning of a period that will surely go down in history as the Adenauer era. In his first policy statement he laid down the guiding lines. The shattered economy was to be rebuilt according to the laws of a market economy. Social legislation was to be broad but realistic. The country was to be associated with the Western powers with the prospect of European Union and a close relationship with the United States.

In his policy statement Adenauer rejected a Grand Coalition of CDU/CSU and SPD as contrary to the voters' wishes. The majority had put their crosses against those parties which had pressed for a social market economy at the Frankfurt Economic Council in face of the SPD's demands for a planned economy.

The composition of the first cabinet set the pattern for the formation of governments in the following years. The SPD was excluded from participation in government throughout this long period and Adenauer looked upon the party as a dangerous in the sphere of domestic policy. The mutual aversion between party chairmen Kurt Schumacher and Konrad Adenauer soon developed into open hatred.

Robert Strobel

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 13 September 1969)

Parliamentary opposition in the Federal Republic

Die parlamentarische Opposition in der Bundesrepublik, by Michael Hereth. Published by Günter Olzog, Munich.

This paperback, volume 147 in the series "History and State", is one of the best books produced up till now in the Federal Republic on parliamentary opposition, a topic which has always been treated perfunctorily even by political scientists.

Michael Hereth painstakingly clears out a few stereotyped ideas, examines the tactics of opposition parties with the help of the stenographic reports on proceedings in the Bundestag and finally submits proposals for parliamentary reform that have the advantage of being based on firm premises.

In the past few years many people have maintained that the system of a governing party in parliament together with the opposition party as an alternative government no longer corresponds to the political and social conditions of a modern industrial society. In a society that has levelled out to a middle-class society the possible political alternatives are reduced to a minimum, they argue.

Hereth makes it clear that clashes of interest still do exist between workers and management, workers and some sections of the middle classes, between agriculture and industry and also between single branches of industry. The basis is there for the development of political alternatives.

After these introductory observations Hereth starts on a thorough analysis of Bundestag practice. He criticises the fact that the Bundestag's standing orders are based not on the actual state of affairs of a governing party with a parliamentary majority but on the myth of an antithesis between parliament and government.

This is shown by the order of speakers and the time allowed for speeches. "The following pattern has evolved in parliamentary practice. In a debate the government is normally followed by a spokesman of the CDU/CSU who enlarges on the government's viewpoint, gives further reasons for steps proposed or modifies them. Only then does the opposition spokesman gain a hearing."

Two figures show that practice has changed. Between 1949 and 1956 there were 28 policy statements. After the relevant cabinet minister had finished presenting the government's intentions the opposition spokesman was next in line in 22 cases out of the total 28. But between 1956 and 1965 a speaker for the opposition opened debates on the sixteen policy statements only seven times.

In taking stock of the situation Hereth investigates the dilemma facing members of the opposition when cooperating in committee work. Hereth believes that the opposition can indeed alter laws when they are cooperating but among the voting public the ruling majority gains all the credit for the laws.

Basing his findings on plenary debates the author points out that between 1950 and 1960 the SPD as opposition party adopted a foreign policy that was directed at public opinion and voters. In the field of domestic policy the party placed most emphasis on achieving as much as possible in parliamentary proceedings and forming things according to its ideals.

Hereth's reform proposals are based on the view that the Bundestag should be a parliament of debate where government and opposition can confront each other. The author emphasises that the government and the parliamentary majority must be thought of more and more as a unit. The leader of the parliamentary party should for example receive an official cabinet position.

Hereth also demands that the position of the leader of the opposition be strengthened. He must be thought of as a fully justified adversary of the Chancellor and given a monthly salary as recognition of his services.

Committees should no longer deal with legislation of political importance, he says. The parliamentary session must once again receive the importance it deserves.

When formulating his proposals Hereth must have asked himself more than once: Will there ever be a parliamentary majority willing to give up its own privileges for the good of the opposition?

(Das Parlament, 13 September 1969)

■ THINGS SEEN

Centenary of Hamburg's Kunsthalle

INTEGRAL PART OF THE CITY'S LIFE

Hamburg's Kunsthalle is one of the "civic" museums of this country and the anniversary of its construction is now being celebrated. Plans to provide Hamburg with a permanent art gallery go back to the beginning of the nineteenth century and the Hamburg Art Society founded in 1817.

In 1850 the first public gallery in the independent imperial city of Hamburg was opened under the stock exchange arcades on Adolphsplatz.

But it soon became too small. In 1863 a competition was held for the design of the new building. The city authorities donated land on the former fortifications on the Alstorhöhle and 100,000 Marks. Citizens raised double this figure.

The competition was won by Hermann von der Hude and Georg Theodor Schirrmacher. The list of sponsors has been preserved and can be seen until 19 October in the stair well of the original building opened in 1869.

Also on show are photographs of the Kunsthalle before its extension, plans for the competition, Hamburg views and fourteen portraits of sponsors.

The second building soon became too small and extensions had to be made between 1884 and 1886. Now the visitor gains the impression that the gallery, including further extensions made in 1911, has exhausted all its available space.

Werner Hoftmann, the director of the West Berlin National Gallery, gave the formal address at the centenary celebrations. In it he considered the role of the museum and its position today. He defined it as the artist's dialectical partner and a place of reminiscence. He boldly swept aside all propaganda directed against the museum which was based on ideologically coloured concepts of diminished reality.

The guests at the ceremony then divided into groups for and against. Ensuing discussion was filled with both agreement and contradiction. That could happen only in a city like Hamburg where the museum is loved. This attack by an institution which, according to popular opinion, should be on the defensive and in the role of pauper was not overshadowed by ill feeling of any sort.

Donations show how great the participation of the citizens of Hamburg is in the affairs and events of their Kunsthalle, one of the collections in this country founded by the initiative of citizens. Two million Marks were raised from contributions ranging from ten Marks to six figure sums.

From the money received in its centenary year the Kunsthalle was able to buy Pablo Picasso's *Homme à la Guitare*, painted as a wedding present for Guillaume Apollinaire in 1918, the portrait of an unknown man by van Dyck and a small altar originating from the Aachen area from about 1380 which shows a madonna with two saints.

A local savings bank, the Neue Hamburger Sparcasse von 1864, presented the Foundation for the Promotion of Hamburg Art Collections, founded in 1956, with Max Beckmann's *Portrait of a Rumanian Girl*, painted in 1922.

Otto Blumenfeld of London donated *Harbour View* by Ivo Hauptmann, done in Hamburg in 1914 in the style of Paul Signac. This follows the tradition founded by Lichtwark to pay due attention in the collection to works by Hamburg artists.

The centenary year is a year of change. Both Alfred Hentzen, director of the Kunsthalle for eight years, and Wolf Stubbe, curator of the engraving section, are going into retirement in October. Stubbe has risen through the organisation from voluntary assistant to head of department. For the collection this has meant a constant development throughout 35 years. Today in Hamburg there is continuity between the old art and the art of the modern generation. The art of our times is always on show in its own department and the examples are changed from time to time.



A pietà done between 1420 and 1430 (Photo: Katalog)

Since 1945 Stubbe has arranged 150 special exhibitions in Hamburg, most of them from the collection in the Kunsthalle. The centenary exhibition, *Masterpieces of Graphic Art*, contains 150 works from the fifteenth to twentieth centuries. Forty artists up to and including Picasso are included.

The selection is of highest artistic quality. The general development is illustrated with well preserved exhibits including rarities like early Italian engravings or specialities like works by Rembrandt.

The selection has a common theme. Secretly rules of quality are formed, especially in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Corinth shows his superior formal power in his late works, as Kokoschka does. An etched self-portrait from 1919 and *Castle Precincts in Berlin*, a lithography from 1923, are on show.

With Canaletto and Whistler we learn to see and recognise the potential not only of two temperaments when depicting the same subject, Venice, but also of different periods of art. When the two Tiepolos are added we see the full associations of the place, feel its atmosphere and the whole is a triumph of light.

When the scenes of Venice are supplemented by Meryon's scenes of Paris and Menzel's vignettes of Berlin, the latter well represented in the Kunsthalle's art collection, we see other worlds complete in themselves.

Dürer and Lucas van Leyden are splendidly juxtaposed. As a third comparison Venice appears once again, even though indirectly. Shades of Carpaccio and Bellini show through. Lucas van Leyden's *Triumph of Mardochai* (1515) is influenced not only by Dürer but contains motives and stylistic compositions of Carpaccio's Legend of St George in the Scuola degli Schiavoni in Venice.

The closeness of relations between Italy, Germany and the Netherlands in the sixteenth century can be traced into the second half of the century to the times of Goltzius, Duvet and others.

The gap between centuries had never been so great or significant as from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries, from Rembrandt to Picasso. This fact is not new. But it has scarcely ever been so well attested to as now in Hamburg where 23 etchings of Rembrandt are on show together with a few works of Picasso. This is an encounter between two leading representatives of their respective century. They are close to each other in their treatment of light and shading, in the way in which they model the body and appearance is merely hinted at with playful, swinging lines. *Doris Schmidt*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 September 1969)

Art in the Ruhr

B1 GROUP PRESENTS ITS MANIFESTO

A new art group has sprung up in the Ruhr.

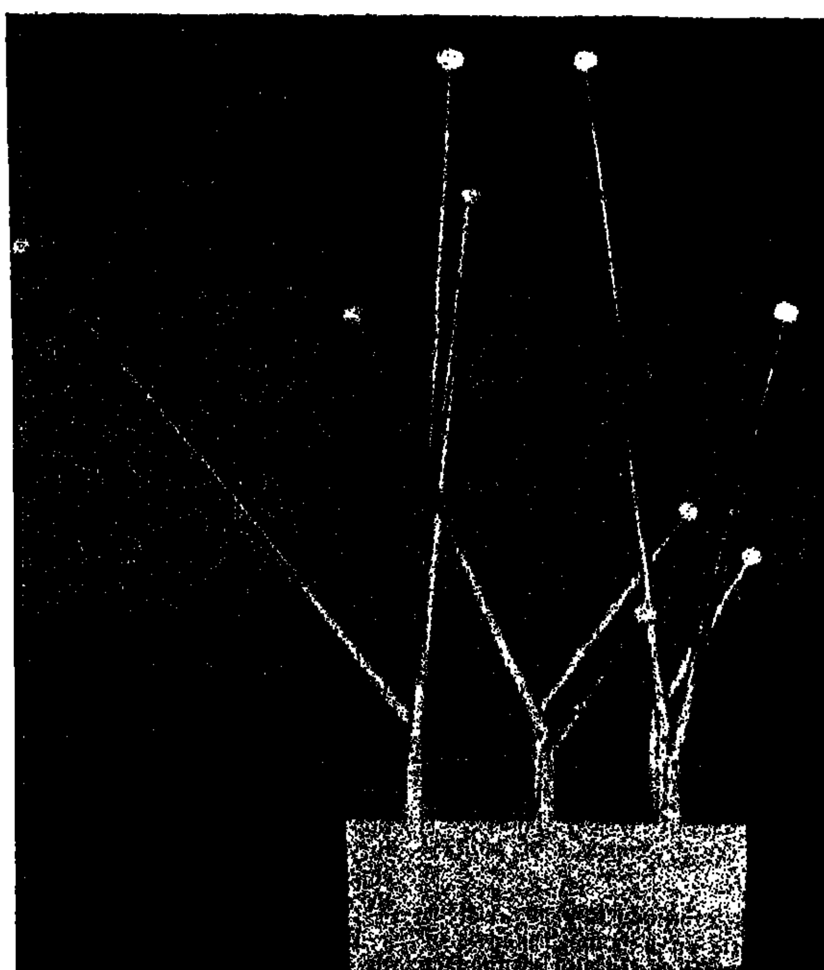
"B1 makes objects, projects, sculptures, pictures, space. B1 is kinetic and static, mobile and stable. B1 is productive. B1 is tuned to factories and industry. B1 plays and is always inquisitive. B1 is the ten people who live on the B1. B1 leads to B1, B1's environment is determined by B1."

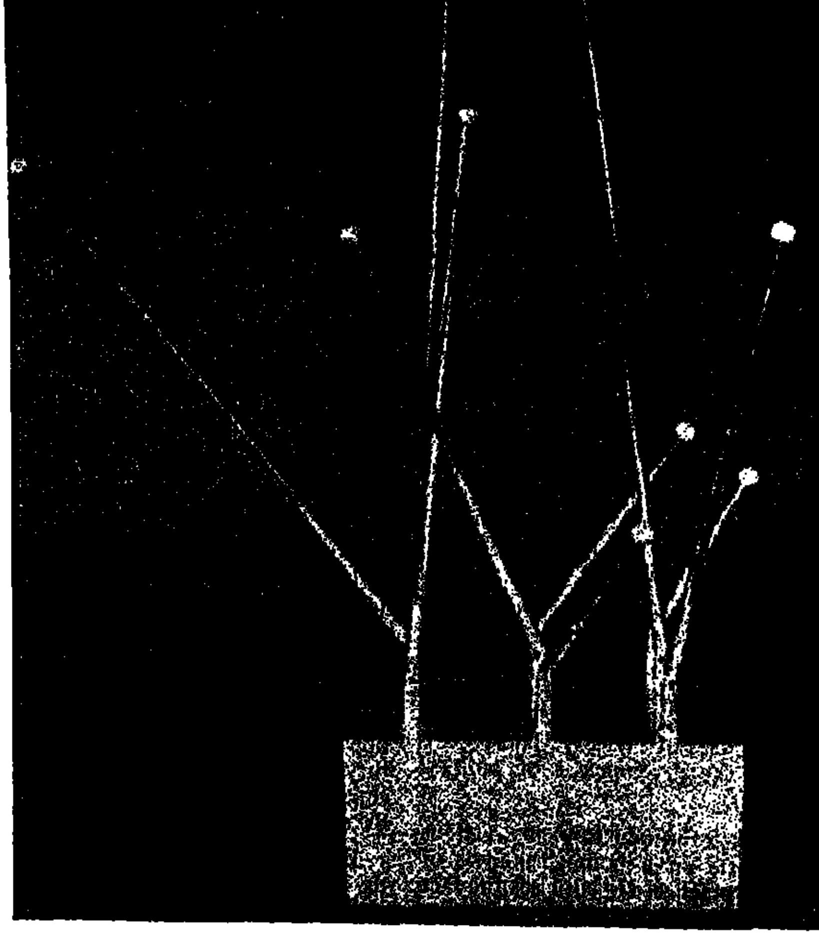
This is the manifesto of a new group of artists being introduced to the public for the first time in Thomas Grochowiaks's Galerie Schloss in Oberhausen.

Their names are Bettenhausen, Damke, Dohr, Glasmeier, Gonschier, Gräsel, Hilgemann, Knubel, Spindel and Tollmann. This alliance of artists was not a result of their ideological agreement artistically, even though their basis is construction, testing new materials and the use of industrial prefabricated parts.

The initiative of Damke, once of Berlin, found unanimous approval. He suggested an alliance linked by a geographical feature. All members live and work along Federal highway B1.

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Rolf Glasmeier: Spielobjekt (Photo: Katalog)

■ CINEMA

Edgar Reitz's 'Cardillac' arouses considerable interest in Venice

Frankfurter Allgemeine ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

In connection with the production of his film *Cardillac*, the Federal Republic's official entry at the thirtieth Venice Film Festival, Producer Edgar Reitz published the following report: "One year ago I resigned from the jury of the Venice Festival to demonstrate against the abolition of prizes and competitions.

"This year I will be presenting my second film, *Cardillac* in Venice. Meantime the organisers have stopped the Grands Prix and made attempts to effect further changes.

"It is an illusion to believe that film-makers would be freed of the torment of competing against each other culturally by simply asking them to come to premieres in sweaters and jeans...

"As television and other entertainment media become more and more powerful competitors, film-makers who produce works of social criticism and try to prick the public's conscience have an ever harder and more bitter fight for existence.

"It *is* only shameful for those who *have* insufficient money to speak of money matters.

"Mass entertainers are not particularly interested in the Venice Film Festival. They solve their advertising problems by financial link-ups which are becoming increasingly difficult to discover.

"On the other hand 'artists' and 'idealists' among film-makers attack and destroy each other in their advertising campaigns. In this way they all remain small-time.

"Nevertheless these producers come to film festivals and put on a show of being capitalists and boast about what they own or what they are.

"They act as though it was a question of conquering a powerful mass market, which is in fact in safe hands...

"If a film festival such as the biennial one in Venice is to be of service to producers of quality films and help them combat the mass entertainers, it must provde some suitable means for them to come to cooperative arrangements and work in mutually beneficial harmony.

"It must make them aware that to overcome cultural competitiveness they must from groups in which they can work and carry on lively disucssions together in order to overcome the problems they share.

"For this reason I will be pleased to travel to Venice, even at my own expense."

Commentary on Reitz's report must be based on his film and the impression in Venice. The film and the report were presented in conjunction with each other. As soon as Reitz's report had been forgotten and his film is showing in our cinemas it will become apparent that Reith through his film *Cardillac* has proved to be the only young German film producer of note apart from Straub and Kluge.

Stylistically *Cardillac* is a continuation of Reitz's first film *Mahlzeiten*. Once again human behaviour is raised to an absurd level and presented thus. In style *Cardillac* seems to be largely orientated towards Alexander Kluge's films. Some of the features of this style are the alternation of colour and monochrome and those scenes in which the actors give commentaries on their own parts.

What is actually shown on the screen is far more significantly distanced from the audience than in *Mahlzeiten*.

The content of the film is an example of that process which Freudian psychologists have analysed and which is described by several modern psychologists and sociologists as 'intensification'. The action shows the metamorphosis of a (objective-negative) forced situation into a (subjective-positive) sensation.

A simple illustration of this concept is for example the development of feelings of duty within the work process the hero of Reitz's film, 'intensifies' the work situation in which he finds himself. He does not want to accept that he is active as a breadwinner but has made over all the economic facets of the exercising of his profession to an assistant.

Cardillac can only be happy, according to the sense of the film, when he can forget the requirements of his work. As a result Cardillac will not admit that the pieces of jewellery which he produces are just wares which are intended to be sold and according to the rules of society no longer belong to him as soon as they have been exchanged for money.



A scene from Reitz's 'Cardillac' (Photo: Edgar Reitz Filmproduktion)

His refusal to accept the situation drives him to perverting completely consciense. He becomes a murderer in order to get back what he has created which is to him the unique product of his personality and genius, and which he views as works of art.

In the end Cardillac surrounded by his creations which are simultaneously his booty commits suicide. But this is not the real end of the film. Reitz shows that Cardillac has attempted to project his deformed conscience on the world around him.

Character analysed

Reitz gives a criticial commentary on the character he has created by means of a daughter, Madelon, who has become incapable of communicating as a result of Cardillac's patriarchal behaviour.

The critics at the Venice Film Festival were split into two groups with regard to their interpretations. The one group considers the film a success, and is prepared in consequence to understand it as an allegory. In this group wild rumours went the rounds that the central figure was to be understood as Hitler, Eichmann or 'the' German.

The similarity of the star actor Hans Christian Blech to Fritz Lang's Doctor Mabuse supports this opinion. This especially so when Siegfried Kracauer's book "From Caligari to Hitler" is taken into consideration. And further support is supplied by Fritz Lang's own declaration "the testament of Dr Mabuse" had been an allegory of National Socialism.

The other group of critics seem to be affected by some absurd scenes in the second half of *Cardillac*. Among these scenes are the grotesque first suicide attempt of the hero in his do-it-yourself electric chair, the attempt of an aristocrat to manifest the "socialism of the horse" by training a brewer's dray horse in a new way which would make it into a steeplechaser. Another such scene is the death of this aristcrat who is attempting to carry out a promise to himself that before he dies he wants to drink milk once again. He stabs himself repeatedly and staggers to the refrigerator. Absurd scenes indeed!

In our short review we have already shown that scenes such as this rob Reitz's theme of its seriousness. Similarly putting the Federal Republic cultural industry (for example Gunter Sachs was there) brings to nought critical analysis of this cultural industry. As Reitz so rightly says, when Sachs plays 'himself' he may well play down the role in order to protect himself from a possible attack on the part of some critics.

On the other hand our modern-day culture is here being decorated attractively by Reitz who affirms everything positive, instead of putting it up to question.

Precisely because of this *Cardillac* is a contradictory film.

And similar contradiction is shown in the producer's report. It is hard the understand how Reitz can seriously believe that he has not tried to put "on intellectually contrived report in the arts page."

That he serously believes that a presentation of his film at the Festival could be 'ornamented' by his presence there betrays a state of mind such as Cardillac's.

An artist's self-understanding is not altered by the fact that be puts the word artist in quoctation marks as Reitz does but by the fact that he acts differently from what one would expect of an artist. Reitz has not done this.

So far it seems the failure of this film which was exceedingly respectable in the first half is not a question of aesthetics but an example of a political awareness, which by compromise stands up for the emancipation of the artist from his traditional artist's role. *Wilfried Wiegand*

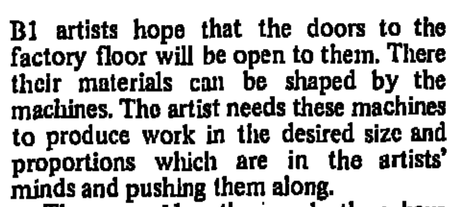
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 September 1969)

Continued from page 6

The exhibition was arranged to announce the formation of this new group and is to be interpreted only as an outward symbol. It shows nothing essentially new apart from Gräsel's eternal sculptures which are now packed in small plastic cases and can be stripped down by purchasers and reassembled into new combinations.

Tellmann's kinetic wing sculptures are also original. Their basic elements have been now simplified to a series of reliefs and seriographs. Primarily the purpose is cultural. By presenting a broad front the demand of the individual artist for closer cooperation with industry, especially industries working with plastics and synthetics, will gain more emphasis and more attention. The artists would like to inspire in the leading lights of industrial concerns a new aesthetic consciousness appropriate to their products.

This should mean a decline in the number of people who think that cooperation between an industrial concern and a progressive artist is a bad advertisement. When these prejudices no longer exist the B1 artists hope that the doors to the factory floor will be open to them. There their materials can be shaped by the machines. The artist needs these machines to produce work in the desired size and proportions which are in the artists' minds and pushing them along.



They consider the work they have done up to now mainly as models. It is obvious that these machines are beyond the reach of the individual artist. Industry can now become a cultural patron, a task which it has not recognised up till now, having made a false assessment of it.

There is one thing that the B1 artists want. This is Grochowiak's dream of an art boulevard in the Ruhr. They want to build an artistic landscape along the B1 out of what is already there and what they are going to add.

This will show that the Ruhr, like the art centres of Cologne and Düsseldorf, is a cultural pinnacle of the first order. Attempts will be made to move the Ruhr Settlement Association to support this project and put an imaginary exclamation mark over the Kohlenpott, the locals' proud name for the coal-mining district. *Klaus B. Reinke*

(Handelsblatt, 1 September 1969)

Larger antique dealers' fair in Hanover

The Antique Dealers' Fair in Hanover is to be on a larger scale next spring than this year. Klaus von Francheville, president of the Lower Saxony state Art and Antique Dealers' Association stated that next year the state authorities in Hamburg, Lübeck, Bremen, Schleswig-Holstein and Berlin would be responsible for organising the Fair.

Art and Antique Dearlers in the Federal Republic who wish to take part in this fair and secure a stall for themselves must have put in their applications by 1 September.

Klaus von Francheville pointed out that the fair would be advertised on a much larger scale. The site for the fair would be extended this year. In 1970 as before a jury would decide the quality of the pieces of art on show.

Organisers of the fair have stated that the number of visitors which was 40,000 this year, would be even greater next spring. (Hannoversche Presse, 28 August 1969)

EDUCATION

Better schooling for the talented

EXPERIMENTS IN NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

Handelsblatt

Before new school systems, new educational methods and new organisational forms are put into practice they must be tested and, if necessary modified. Too much is at risk if a reform which is necessary and desirable in theory cannot be achieved in practice or has only limited application.

Wilhelm Holthoff, Education Minister for North Rhine-Westpahlia started with this point when he announced the introduction of a limited number of pilot schools for the start of the school year.

Necessary further development of the school system on the basis of traditional school forms should not disturb the continuing educational work of the school nor exacerbate the lack of teachers and schoolrooms. New educational findings should not be introduced into schools until their rightness is proved beyond doubt.

Tests have begun at 200 primary schools, 67 secondary schools (including 17 grammar schools) and 21 preparatory schools in 14 towns in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. According to Holthoff their task is to consider the claims of the individual as well as the needs of society. General teaching is to be replaced by a system concentrating more on the individual pupil. As early as primary school talented children should be given the chance to shorten their school career by missing a class.

Holthoff believes that it is necessary to reconsider the function of the primary school. The primary school must prepare each and every child for further school life, the different experiences of a child in today's environment must be borne in mind and teaching should be adapted to individual talent.

Individual aid is also the aim of the varying education at fifty experimental secondary schools which offer 18 hours basic education and 14 hours of courses in four different directions.

At grammar schools the older pupils shall have an increased say in the subjects they study. At a girls' grammar school in Gladbeck the girls have a chance of choosing their own teacher.

Of the twelve comprehensive schools planned seven are already in operation and the remaining five will start next year. With one exception they will teach for the whole of the day instead of just in the morning as is usual in this country's schools.

Holthoff claims success in combatting teacher shortages. At the present time fifty per cent of all A-level students hope to become teachers. This figure should not decline in the next few years. Holthoff estimates that by 1972 about 12,000 fully trained teachers will have entered service in primary and intermediate schools. And this is sufficient for the long-term demand.

At present over 10,000 posts in North Rhine-Westphalia are empty. This gap cannot be filled by graduates alone. Because of this the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia has increased the opportunities for teacher training and facilitated transition from one type of school to another.

To alleviate the shortage of teachers part time teachers were employed with considerable success. Half the shortage is now covered by 41,471 teachers who teach for 240,000 hours a week.

(Handelsblatt, 27 August 1969)

New physical chemistry department

Two and a half years ago construction began on the most modern department in the Federal Republic, the new department of physical chemistry at Hamburg University. It is now ready.

Dr Wilhelm Drexelius, deputy Mayor of Hamburg and chairman of the education authority, handed the golden key to Dr Fritz Thieme who was deputising for Professor Adolf Knappwost, a doctor of engineering.

The new department of physical chemistry is on the Laufgraben and has facilities for both chemical and physical experiments. A variable system allows students to work when no maintenance staff is present. It only takes a short time for students using the room to create the practical conditions needed for chemical and physical experiments by unscrewing desk-like sections from the wall— and they do not need the help of technicians.

The stimulus for this principle, in operation for the first time in this country, came from architects at the Technical University of Aachen. The new department contains places for 120 students.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 August 1969)

Reform for prehospital medical studies

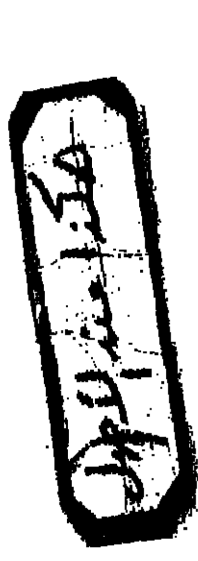
Marburg University has been given 17 million Marks by the Volkswagen Foundation to build practical facilities as part of a reform in the education of medical students.

The new building will provide the necessary space to introduce medical students to experimental work before they start their hospital training. The department of physiology and rehabilitation research, the two professors of physiology and chemistry, the department of pharmaecology and the professor of pharmaecology and toxology are also participating in the experiment.

For years the Volkswagen Foundation has been fighting for a reform of medical education. An instruction project in the medical faculty of Tübingen University and an experiment in Erlangen to intensify the education of medical students by staying at or near a hospital both aimed at an improved, more practical training for medical students. The Marburg project should intensify and integrate the pre-hospital theoretical and scientific training.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 29 August 1969)

Programmed teaching as an aid to improved education



Education will not be revolutionised by the introduction of programmed teaching into Hamburg schools. The first stage of programmed education being tested in secondary schools, including a dozen grammar schools, has produced good results. But it is clear that it is only an aid to the teacher and will never make him superfluous.

Curt Zahn, the head of the school authorities said on the subject, "The problem is the programme itself. It must be tested in class before being produced in greater numbers. Our experiences with the first language laboratories have been excellent. They are essential aids to both teacher and pupil. The school authority has a long-term plan to increase the numbers of language laboratories."

Programmed education in book form is being tested in grammar schools in English and mathematics, especially in large classes. According to Curt Zahn the programmes are particularly suitable for revision but new knowledge too can be achieved.

The second generation of programmed education will soon be introduced. Computers of the most modern type will carry on conversations with pupils, a development which could never have been foreseen six years ago when the first primitive learning aids were introduced.

Curt Zahn's comment was, "It is possible to connect a pupil by telephone with a computer in Cologne. The computer asks questions. If the pupil's answer is wrong the question is repeated. If the second answer is wrong the computer tells the pupil to consult its teacher. Again this type of programmed education does not make the teacher superfluous. Only the teacher can spur the pupil to creative learning."

School authorities are making efforts to have a continual up-to-the-minute picture of progress made in programmed educational aids. To this purpose a permanent commission has been appointed.

Recently Professor Hans-Heinrich Plickat gave a lecture in the Institute for the further education of teachers on the limits and possibilities of programmed teaching. He dealt particularly with pupils' reactions to programmed education. He observed that after thirty minutes there was a sharp decline in performance. The pupils were rebelling against the idea.

The success of the new system is dependent on small dosage, Professor Plickat said. He would not recommend more than six hours programmed education weekly. Professor Plickat called for particular caution in the introduction of programmed education in elementary schools. Here there was a clear obstacle to its use. Younger pupils are dependent on social relationships with fellow pupils and teachers. And this, the professor said, was a prerequisite for the preservation of the willingness to learn. An exhibition showing technical aids in programmed education met with great interest. The exhibiton is at present on show at the Institute for the further education of teachers. Today teachers have the opportunity to delve deeper into the information on programmed education through group work.

(DIE WELT, 2 September 1969)

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SCIENCE

A study of old people and their problems

GERONTOLOGICAL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IN KARLSRUHE

When a congress dealing with such a broad field as National Therapy Week in Karlsruhe shows no signs of flagging, even after 21 years, it is time to find out the reasons for this astonishing tenacity of life. The main honours must go to the Tübingen specialist for internal diseases, Professor H.E. Bock. Under his presidency the largest congress of European doctors has been infected by his vitality and has become a worldwide attraction.

To open Therapy Week with the problems resulting from the particular situation of old people would have been unthinkable twenty years ago.

We then see a development that seems to be almost paradoxical. The more older sections of the community have their social position put in question and devalued, the more persistently the medical profession has shown an interest in them.

Professor R. Schubert of Nuremberg pointed out with regret that the Federal Republic, unlike other civilised countries, had no department of gerontology at its universities where the problems of old age could be scientifically investigated. Promising beginnings have been made already in individual medical branches. All that is needed now is inter-disciplinary cooperation to provide basic gerontological research for the treatment from experience widely practised today.

If a characteristic for gerontological diseases is to be found, it is what the medical profession calls multimorbidity.

As a person becomes older his body and organism increasingly fall victim to many complaints simultaneously which are often connected, but appear quite independently of one another. One example is bronchitis and the number of complaints it causes.

Common to all of them is the fact that they often begin as minor complaints, sometimes leading doctors to consider then as negligible. It is not rare for an old person's cough to be the beginning of an illness that develops into tuberculosis or, recently, a bronchial tumor. By referring to this Professor Schubert wanted to point out that it took careful diagnosis for the doctor to be able to catch typical gerontological diseases in time.

Dr Hans Birkner, director of the Nuremberg Surgical Hospital, quoted at the congress the concept of old-age infirmity coined by the famous pathologist, Aschoff. By this Aschoff had meant a decline in the function of the organs caused by the pathological reconstruction of tissue in various parts of the body. Functioning tissue is replaced by connective tissue which cannot function. This must be looked upon as an inevitable process of decay and degeneration.

These factors often play a decisive part in the types of accident injuries sustained by elderly people. The walls of the femur become thinner and break under relatively small pressures. The same is true of the flat skull bones and the vertebrae. The best example for this type of injury is the dreaded fracture of the femur. If an old person cannot stop himself from falling then he may be condemned to spend weeks in a hospital.

Treatment of fractures has changed for the elderly in the last few years. A long stay in bed is dangerous, Dr Birkner claims. It could lead to circulatory complaints. Vital organs could be deprived of oxygen and pneumonia could result. Thrombosis and embolism are also possible. These are the complaints that doctors fear most when ordering an elderly patient to bed for a long period.

Main emphasis in treating an elderly patient is now placed on getting him back on his feet as soon as possible. Munich orthopaedic specialist Professor A.N. Witt pointed out a more specific cure. A person should try to keep in condition before becoming old, he said. Then he would find it easier to recover after an accident. In short, sport should not be practised only during youth. Exercise should be taken by the elderly as well.

Professor Witt too appealed for no more than a short stay in bed but he enlarged upon this for the benefit of his colleagues in practice. The main thing, he said, was not healing local damage but preserving the other functions of the body untouched by illness or accident which has made the patient bedridden.

An essential part of orthopaedic therapy was breathing exercises and other exercises the patient could perform in bed. Then there was surgery. Nuremberg surgeon Professor E. Holder said that exhaustive statistics show that the results of operations were astounding. People in their sixties and seventies, and even in their eighties, recovered from them astonishingly well.

Professor Witt said that the decision to operate on an elderly person should be taken with less soul searching than the decision to operate on a younger person. He stated that care should on the other hand be taken with the prescription of corsets and other such aids. They were normally a burden and of little therapeutic value.

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 September 1969)

Dead dolphins examined

KIEL UNIVERSITY ACTS AS CENTRE OF STUDY

Handelsblatt

In the last few months the department for the study of pets at Kiel University has developed into an unloading base for parts of dolphins.

Dolphins that have died in dolphin shows from all over Europe are dissected here and distributed to various specialists.

Scientific institutes of various types lay claim to the brain, digestive organs and skeleton of these highly developed and abnormally intelligent mammals.

The skin of the dolphin is of most practical use. Three institutes in this country are engaged on a joint research project to decide on improvements in the design of air and sea traffic. The study of biological models should help them to lower water and air resistance.

All creatures that move in water or air such as fish, birds, seals and dolphins are able to combat air and water friction. Friction occurs when the medium in which matter is moving, even streamlined matter, is able to flow past only the front third. Behind the front third of the body in question the flow becomes turbulent and eddies occur. This phenomena can be viewed from the stern of a ship travelling at speed. Its wake extends over a large area. Turbulence is a drain on energy and must be overcome with the aid of the propeller motor. If it were not for turbulence ships and aeroplanes would be able to travel far more quickly than they do today.

In recent years it has been discovered that animals that move quickly have special surface organs along their body to prevent turbulence in the flow of the medium and at the same time conserve their own energy. Professor Thiele, a specialist in colloid chemistry at the University of Kiel, assumes that these surface organs cause only what he calls micro-turbulence. The flow continues for the most part and the alnimal does not need to expend much extra energy to escape the wake.

For the time being Professor Thiele is working with Professor Hertel of the Berlin Institute for Dike and Shipbuilding at the Hamburg experimental station for shipping design under Professor Wieghardt.

There they are trying to develop new surfaces for boats and planes form biological methods and models. Vehicles are streamlined today but that is not sufficient. The surface is not adequately adapted to the flow of air or water and macro-turbulence results. The special organs on the animal's skin must be copied to make possible decisive progress in modern technology and design.

At the moment the three institutes are concentrating on the evaluation of what aquatic animals can suggest in the design of submarines and other sea-going vessels.

Experiments with fish have been most rewarding so far. To reduce water resistance fish use their scales to a great extent. The scales are able to adapt to water pressure by means of their elastic skin. Macro-turbulence is then avoided.

Professor Thiele discovered that fish can effectively lower water resistance by means of the slime on their skin. The slime consists of polyuron acids which are viscous by nature. When the acids leave the body of the fish the threads left behind smooth the passage of the flow and the fish is not unduly affected by turbulence.

In experiments to copy the effect of the fish's body slime several viscous substances have been used on porous surfaces which let the substances gradually escape. At the moment work is continuing with polyglycol, polyoxyurethane and alginates.

Experiments in Kiel were successful in reducing water resistance by these methods by as much as forty per cent. In Berlin the figure was even as high as seventy per cent. Work is continuing in order to ascertain which viscous substances would be most successful in use.

Experiments were also carried out on the skin of aquatic mammals such as seals. In these cases the hair is obviously of use in reducing turbulence. No successes have yet been recorded in this field. In preliminary experiments experimental models were covered in seal skin but this did not result in a reduction of resistance. The reason for this must be the fact that the peculiarities of the red, tanned skins are different to those of skins on the living creature.

The next stage of the experiments has already been carried out in the United States. The dolphin's skin will be copied to achieve the same effects in the reduction of resistance. Up to now it is known that the effect is caused by a cushion of oil under the hard, leather-like surface skin. The skin yields in those places where it meets pressure from he turbulence. This reduces resistance and the dolphin can swim along smoothly.

The dolphin's skin is now being closely examined in Kiel and Berlin to find ways of copying this special effect. To this end Kiel University's department for the study of pets is donating the dophin skins it receives to research.

Harald Steinert

(Handelsblatt, 29 August 1969)

Computer writes unwritten African history

Somewhat complacently the peoples of Africa are often described as young because their history is judged according to the progress and attainments of Western civilisation.

For many Europeans African history does not begin until the colonial era. They would be surprised to learn how old these young peoples were and see the richness and variety of their cultural history. The Frobenius Institute in Frankfurt recently started research into the history and culture of Africa. Its director is Dr Eike Haberland.

The Volkswagen Foundatioon donated 300,000 Marks so that the Frobenius Institute could produce an *Atlas Africanus*.

This atlas will take stock of African culture which is receding more and more under the influences of modern civilisation and industrialisation. As research into African history is unable to find an adequate basis of hard historical fact other sources and methods must be used here than in research into the history of people with a written tradition.

Written documents from Europeans first appear in the sixteenth century. Arabic documents are rarely older than a few centuries previous. That means that African history can be treated only in the sense of cultural history. Research must be based chiefly on archaeological findings, results from linguistic research and cultural comparisons.

Exhibits in cultural museums have often been assembled purely by chance. Collections were not laid out to any principle of historical research, especially before 1945. Exhibits were chosen purely from the point of view of beauty or curiosity.

The *Atlas Africanus* should now systematically catalogue all these sources and serve as a basis for further historical research. There is also a carefully examined register of African peoples and a classification of material cultures and techniques. The atlas is to be published in English and German so that it will be accessible to the international market.

Its systemisation and exhaustiveness is unique and the atlas can rightly be called the first comprehensive history of Africa.

In the twenties Leo Frobenius prepared the basis for a history of African civilisation. His prime purpose was to delineate the great culturel regions. Today the material he collected, 25,000 pictures, photographs and selections, serves as the invaluable basis for the *Atlas Africanus*.

After systematic arrangement with the help of a modern computer a survey of the material will be started.

(Hannoversche Presse, 28 August 1969)

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bank Rate increased by five per cent

DEARER MONEY SHOULD AID HEATING ECONOMY

Raising Bank Rate to six per cent has meant that the figure had doubled since last spring. The Central Bank Committee made the decision to raise the Rate after the last monthly report from the Bundesbank, which confirmed that there had been no slackening in the growth of overall demand.

On 11 September members of the Central Committee of the Bundesbank discussed in depth the economic situation and came to the conclusion that increasing economic pressures and the high level of monetary expansion made further measures necessary with regard to credit policy.

Accordingly it was resolved that with effect from 11 September Bank Rate would be increased from five to six per cent and the Lombard rate from six to as high as 7.5 per cent, invalidating the recently introduced special Lombard rate.

Simultaneously the Bundesbank raised the sales interest rate on its money market documents by 0.75 per cent to one per cent, with effect from 12 September.

Now the Bundesbank loan interest rate is double the figure for this spring, after two previous one per cent increases, the first in mid April, the other on 20 June.

Only once before in the post-war years has Bank Rate in this country been so high. This was between autumn 1950 and spring 1952.

Even at the time of heavy restrictions by the issuing bank in the second half of 1966 five per cent sufficed. This is the first occasion in post war times that the Lombard rate has been as high as 7.5 per cent.

One occurrence which was new in banking circles was that the Bundesbank continued to accept bills of exchange and rediscounted at the old rate on 11 September, a procedure which was criticised from some quarters, but was largely greeted with understanding. The bank took this line simply as a reserve measure in case the Central Bank Committee should decide on an increased Bank Rate, which they in fact did. The new percentage was announced at about noon.

In banking circles the strangest part of the whole business is regarded as being the advance notice that was given of the Bundesbank's planned measures after the cabinet meeting shortly before.

This drastically increased cost of issuingbank credit, which has not come as a great surprise but which was not expected to be so high, will have a great effect on the economy according to the overwhelming opinion of experts on credit policies.

This effect will be heightened in connection with the continually increasing demand for credit from large companies and with the raising of other costs, which in some cases is already in effect and in others will occur in the foreseeable future.

The building trade and the stock market will be hardest hit. They would have had to reckon with increased interest rates till the end of the year anyway, according to many observers.

The new high bank rate should have full effect on the interest rate on overdrafts, whereas in the case of time loans there should be greater reluctance to extend the limit.

On the other hand the interest on savings still on deposit will probably be raised.

Those finance companies which work mainly with industrial giants find themselves in a tricky situation, since firms of international repute now as ever have the chance to raise funds abroad.

On the money market the high, but now steady Lombard rate marks the upper limits on which the day rates are orientated. Whether there will be a recall of money from abroad depends on the dollar rates, which have a slightly attractive tendency, and also from the Bundesbank's Swap policy.

In its latest monthly report the bank of issue put forward an analysis from which the Central Bank Committee drew support for its decisions.

It stated that in the summer overall demand had continued to rise at an undiminished rate. Receipts of orders from abroad and domestic contracts for investment goods had not been so thick on the ground as in the spring.

But in the raw material industries there had been a greater increase in orders. Building contracts have been in great supply and there have been enormous rises in requirements for personal consumer goods.

Looking at the other side of the picture we see that as far as production is concerned, despite increased recruitment of foreign workers and increased overtime, not to mention a rise in imports, the excess demand could not be controlled. Export surpluses even rose a little.

Extended delivery schedules often led to permature placing of contracts, which in turn increased the impression of excessive demand in the eyes of producers.

Price indices, such as that of industrial producers and building societies had risen at a greater pace in recent times, whereas retail prices reacted to economic pressures with noticeable hesitation.

It would seem that in the future it will no longer be possible for the economic situation to be ameliorated by an increase in productivity.

The Bundesbank gave a reminder that rising costs do not dovolve entirely upon retail prices, but are soaked up in part by narrowing on the profit margin, which usually causes an economic reaction.

All in all economic brakes from foreign trade are lacking at present, for there seems little possiblity in the near future of stemming the inflationary tendencies in the Federal Republic by cooperative economic measures with other countries.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 12 September 1969)

Economic trends continue to give experts anxiety

Pressure on the Federal Republic economy is becoming stronger. The economic vice has tightened its grip.

Overall demand continues to increase at a great rate. Foreign industrial contracts are in fact not coming in so thick and fast, nor are domestic orders for investment goods, but on the other hand, orders are coming in from the raw material industries in greater numbers.

Furthermore the building trade has a great deal of work on its hands and in addition private consumption is continuing to increase.

These are the alarming factors in the Bundesbank's latest report on the economic situation. Just how seriously economic experts are taking the matter is shown clearly by the premature publication of the issuing bank's report for September.

Supply can only increase slowly and painfully since all labour and procution reserves are exhausted. Increased imports have not helped to assuage excessive demand.

Exports have been increased at a faster pace and an ever greater *proportion of* goods produced in this country is not available to satisfy our needs.

Price indices, which are one of the quickest guides to economic influences, have risen rapidly of late.

The onset of rising costs is only just being noticed since increasing productivity has compensated extensively, and as far as industry is concerned completely, for increased wages and salaries, according to the Bundesbank.

In future this trend may well cease since the scope for futher increased productivity does not match likely pay rises.

There is scarcely a doubt that rising costs will lead to rising prices especially as the brakes that trade with other countries can apply to this country's runaway economy are wearing out and do not look likely to be effective in future in face of worldwide inflationary tendencies.

It is not, according to the report, safe to expect a stemming of inflationary tendencies in the Federal Republic based on economic relations with the rest of the world.

The amount of money in circulation has greatly increased. It is no good expecting a monetary solution to inflationary trends in this country:s economy. In fact the exact opposite may well occur and the finacial situation may the economic, the Bundesbank report claims.

There is along list of faults in the economic situation of this country: a mountain of uncompleted industrial orders,continuing long delivery schedules, more and more frequent price increases which will be passed on to the consumer in what is only a matter of time, generally high profit margins, a well-oiled export industry, relatively high savings, large increases in private income, and very high withdrawals on the part of the self-employed.

Finally, the bank reports, pensions, welfare and other fixed incomes have only risen a little.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 September 1969)

Companies research into investment potential



Since 1 May there has been the possibility that State grants will be allocated to companies from this country for reasearch into investment and economic potential in developing countries.

Within the limits of the money allocated by the budget a stimulus is to be given to intermediate economies to test investment markets which are of interest in connection with this country's policy for the developing countries and for our foreign economic policy.

To date about 100 applications have been made to the Association for Economic Cooperation in Cologne (DEG), which is responsible for dealing with inquiries in connection with this scheme.

However, they have not yet been formulated into building contracts. But many interested parties have made further inquiries and there is apparently a widespread interest in this project.

Various plans have been put forward, ranging from projects in the synthetics and textile industries and structural steel production to building bakeries in Latin America.

Economists have been quick to enthuse about this initial aid from the government for economic expansion. Direct investments are a particularly suitable form of development aid.

Even though private direct investments in the underdeveloped countries rose to over 700 million Marks in 1968, they were still less than one third of the total direct foreign investment programme.

It is certainly not being concealed that there is a lot of ground to be covered before all the plans are fulfilled.

The current plans laid out by the Federal government state that a loan of up to 50 per cent of the estimated costs will be made to companies wishing to undertake these research projects. The upper limit of this loan is set at 50,000 Marks.

According to rumours this limit may be postponed again.

The object of an investment study should be to test whether there is a specific investment plan. The investment tests must be carried out by fully qualified economic experts.

In isolated cases the guaranteeing of an allowance can be made dependent on a specially appointed outside expert, for example a professional consultant organisation.

In each case interest on the outstanding amount of the loan must be paid at an annual rate of one per cent above the Bundesbank rate.

Repayment begins at the latest three years after the payment of the first instalment of the loan. The complete loan must be written off within two years of the commencement of repayment.

Reasoned opinion states that on the basis of the studies an investment may be undertaken, in which case the loan may be converted wholly or partly into a subsidy. In this eventuality the rights to exploit the investment must be handed over to the Association.

Economists point out, however, that steps must be taken to ensure that if the decision not to invest is taken as a result of the studies there will be no question of the companies concerned handing the hat round to government authorities.

It is still without doubt much too early to draw definite conclusions about the measure of success that the new measures will have.

But it is clear that this new tool can be made to measure up to practical requirements, if all interested parties are quick to take stock of its potential and see how it fits in with their organisation.

The fact that the budgetary requirements must be studied again at a later date is another story.

(Handelsblatt, 11 September 1969)

LABOUR RELATIONS

Metalworkers disturb industrial relations

LABOUR DISPUTES AND POLITICAL ARGUMENTS

The long, hot summer is taking place in the autumn. The Federal Republic the shining example of social peace and order in Europe is suddenly being hit by a wave of uncontrolled strikes. At the same time union tendencies to political radicalism are noticeable here and there.

The establishment, surprised by the recurrence of the almost forgotten phenomenon of the wildcat strike find themselves on the brink of disaster, because of the hangover from the wages policy. The strike of workers in the coal and steel industries can be seen as more than the mere expression of economic discontent.

It is an irony of fate that in Dormund, of all places, the constituency of the initiator of 'concerted action', Karl Schiller, disconcerted reaction began.

The question is being asked in all quarters how it is possible that the unions in the midst of ecnomic prosperity and general goodwill on the part of company chiefs with regard to wages policies can let the reins slip from their hands.

This is all the more surprising since the wage agreements run out in at most three months' time in the steel industry.

Meantime for more than a million employees in the steel industry and coal mines wage discussions are under way.

The possibility that this may spread and affect other industrial sectors must not be ruled out. Although the situation in the steel works affected has in the mantime cooled down a little and the union is largely in control of the situation again this is only in connection with the price of premature wage agreements or advances upon expected proceeds from wage agreements.

As a result of the influence of the economic doldrums I.G. Metall, the metalworkers union, elicited moderate wage increases for the current wage agreement which expires in November this year in the iron and steel industry. Only five per cent more for the second half of 1968 and meagre two per cent from March this year were planned.

No one could have expected that the economic situation would undergo such a basic change in these 18 months.

The steel industry is likely to make 1969 a record year. Production is expected to be about 45 million tons. Even during the fisrt eight months the Federal Republic steel foundries had exceeded their output for 1968 by about 10 per cent.

Because of the great demand from this country and abroad and the fact that this lead to a bottleneck in supply caused prices to increase. The result was that the men received fat pay packets. shareholders of steel companies' stock received notices concerning higher dividends.

One important reason for the latent discontent of workers was that the members of the Coalition government in Bonn discovered economic policy as a new sphere for political conflicts. There was mutual escalation on this score after the bother with the question of revaluation and all this aggravated the workers' discontent.

Karl Schiller played the role of prophet and frustrated child prodigy foresaw the threatening prices rises. Although the cost of living index was only 2.6 per cent higher in mid-1969 than in November 1968 Schiller made talk about massive price rises fashionable.

The strike of 23,000 steel workers in the Hoesch plant in Dortmund was caused simply by the wage structure becoming unhinged. This gave rise to a chain reaction. Rhine-steel, Mannesmann, Klöckner, AEG and finally the nationalised Saar mines were stages in a movement which reserves for itself the right to seek justice outside the normal spheres.

The union cannot take too much of the credit for the fact that individual wildcat strikes were partly brought under control.

Under the pressure of circumstances employers in steel concerns, faced with pressing demands which was costing them several million Marks agreed to bring forward negotiations on wage agreements. I.G. Metall, has resumed its role of mediator for the employees. Among the points on its programme are raising tariff agreed wages by 14 per cent and the exclusion of non-working week days from holiday arrangments. After it had been agreed in the metal industry that a wage rise of eight per cent should be brought forward people in the steel industry should have followed a middle way between these two figures. Now I.G. Bergbau, the mine-workers' union, also does not wish to miss the train. Union chief Walter Arendt announced his intention to take premature action to improve pay for coalminers which is not due to be considered before the end of the year.

It is all too easy to see the influence of communist-orientated powers on all sides and make them responsible for the strikes. Certainly in the case of Hoesch a trainee with the extra-parliamentary opposition tendencies was active in whipping up trouble and the DKP waited with pamphlets in front of the works' gates. Also it is true that East Berlin television had its cameras ready even before the start of the wildcat strike in Dusiburg-Meiderich. And indeed the militant threats of Hoesch chairman of directors Harders should not be underestimated. It seems that in all the agitations of forces outside the unions was more an initiating than a deciding factor.

More dangerous for the functioning of tariff autonomy and the role of the unions are the examples of increasing political radicalism of leftwing socialist employee organisations. A striking example is provided by I.G. Chemie-Papier-Keramik, the union looking after workers' interests in the chemicals, paper and ceramics industry, which is trying to establish itself as a political power under its new managing director, Karl Hauenschild.

It is not economic discontent which leads to demands such as these. People would neither respect politicians' decisions if they did not fit into the unions' scheme of things nor let their room for manoeuvre be cut down.

Behind this can be hidden the attempt to change the legal means of discussion in the work battle into weapons to help fight for personal political goals.

This supposition its supported by, for example, the demand that banks to which the whole chemical industry belongs should be converted to public concerns operating in the public interest. The classical Marxist theory of creating capital in industry is by holding back wage levels, raising prices and withholding payment of taxes due. From this point of view it is only a small step to the theory that the whole social and economic system must be changed completely. This means that people are on the right road to cast doubt upon themselves.

Gerd Freidel

(CHRIST UND WELT, 12 September 1969)

Striking workers wave a poster reading, 'We demand an 8% wage increase.'
(Photo: AP)

Wage agreements up in flames

BY WILLI MICHELS OF THE METAL WORKERS UNION, DÜSSELDORF

Strikes arising spontaneously, without the organisation and support of a trade union are known as "wildcat strikes."

For good reasons the unions prefer terms such as "spontaneous cessation of work" or protest demonstration.

Contrasted with union organised strikes spontaneous cessations of work rarely have an aim which can be settled by agreements with the management.

The strikes at present affecting the iron and steel industries and mining are different from what we in this country are used to.

The dissidents are demanding higher pay. But their wages and salaries are the very essence of wage agreements. This means they are fixed and controlled by the agreement.

The wage agreement is, like any other contract in law a peace treaty. This means that the unions are legally bound to force their members in the coal, iron and steel industries who have downed tools to resume work.

But what are the unions to do, if, despite their mediation, employees stubbornly continue their demands and are not prepared to wait until wage agreements have been called off or expired?

Such siuations are rare. They only arise when social, economic and political terms create an atmosphere in which employees feel themselves to be at a disadvantage and have the clear impressions that their interests are no longer being taken care of.

In such an atmosphere it is easy for radical political groups to use the situation to start wildcat strikes standing from the sidelines. Under these conditions they can reckon with spontaneous agreement.

The unions then find themselves coerced. It is precisely when employees feel themselves at a disadvantage that the duty of the unions is to fight for their interests. In the case of wildcat strikes, however, legal requirements hamper their attempts to organise this fight and bring it to a successful conclusion.

If they declare themselves in favour of a wildcat strike they can be made to pay compensation to employers.

The last wage agreement in the iron and steel industry was completed on 6 June 1968. It is valid until 30 November 1969. This means it has a duration of 18 months.

When this wage agreement was completed the economic situation in iron and steel was rather grim. It was the time when the consequences of the slump in 1966-1967 could first be overcome. This wage agreement comprised a rise of 5 per cent from 1 January 1968 and a second wage rise of two per cent from 1 March 1968. At this point in time the economic development which has come about in the meantime could not have been predicted.

Productivity rate is 90 per cent of capacity. Productivity has risen over twenty per cent in many cases. Wage security of 'special payments' was raised during negotiations from fifty to 75 per cent of a monthly wage packet. But that was not enough to satisfy the justified discontent.

It was not without effect upon employees in the iron and steel industry that individual companies gave premature notice to their shareholders that company affairs were thriving and that higher dividend payments could be expected.

It must not be forgotten that developments in wage agreements in the iron and steel industry since 1963 have fallen behind wage agreements in other metalworking industries and are now 14 per cent behind. In a situation such as this it is easy to unleash a spontaneous strike. There are splinter groups for which it is unimportant whether improvements in working conditions are achieved or not but for which it is important to create strikes and industrial unrest.

Even when the union knows that a spontaneous cessation of work will upset its wage agreement policy with the result that a materially worsened outcome will develop in the end. Itcannot deny the justification of spontaneous demands. If employers and their associates react to this sort of situation without insight their stubbornness can lead to a speading of conflicts. It is quite possible for these sudden strikes to get a grip on the whole of an industry. On these occasions nothing can be gained by quoting law books.

Recourse to legal measures will have no effect on mass strikes which are considered to have legitimate causes.

(Handelsblatt, 12 September 1969)

■ TRANSPORT

BMW remains faithful to the BMW motorcycle

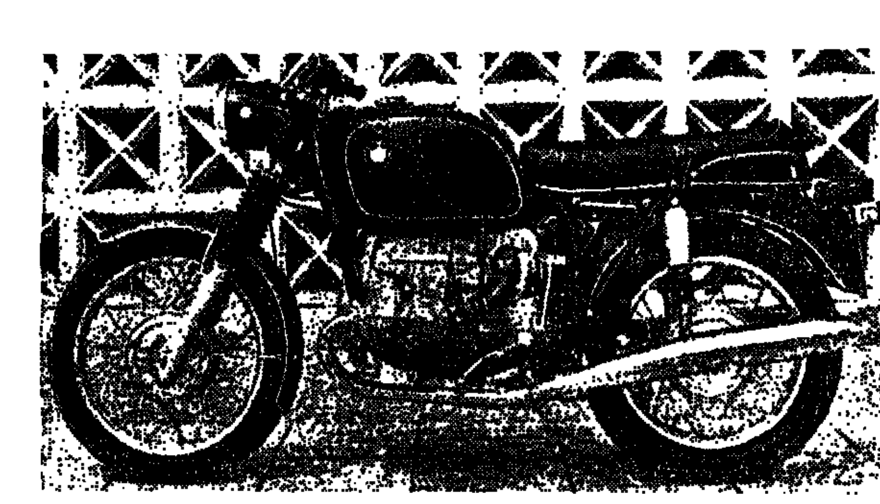
STILL FORGING AHEAD ON TWO WHEELS!

BMW's real boss is the firm's image and this image is derived largely from the classic BMW motorcycle. This is still the case and will continue to be so, since BMW are to continue making motorcycles.

So saying, BMW directors Paul Hahnemann and Helmut Werner Bönsch unveiled the latest models, the R 50/5, R 60/5 and R 75/5 at the end of August. The new styling was to be admired and initial impressions of how the newcomers gained at Hockenheim racetrack.

With these big two-cylinder bikes of 500, 600 and 750 cc and 32, forty and fifty horse power BMW have given their important motorcycle division a new look. In recent years it has been somewhat overshadowed by the firm's success in manufacturing and marketing motorcars.

BMW now aim to make up lost ground in the two-wheeler field and open up new markets with the unveiling of their new models and the expansion of production facilities at their Spandau motorcycle works in Berlin.



The BMW R75/5 — a motorcycle for tough men

(Photo: BMW)

The decision to do so is understandable enough. Demand for the classic motorcycle is booming, particularly in the United States, Africa and Asia, but also in Euope and this country.

BMW have remained absolutely faithful to the horizontally-opposed two-cylinder engine with universal-shaft transmission that characterised the first two-cylinder model, the R 32 of 1923.

The new models also have the typical BMW silhouette, with transverse-mounted cylinders sticking out into the slipstream at either side, the clean-cut crankcase-cum-gearbox and the dirt-free, easy-to-service, safe-running cardan drive.

The new engines nonetheless have little in common with their predecessors. Basic changes have been made to what goes on inside. Lightweight-metal cylinders with cast perlite bushes, traction armatures in the crankchase that go right through to the cylinder heads, bumpers beneath the ribbed cylinders and camshafts beneath the crankshafts are characteristic features of the new models.

The crnakshaft itself is a single forged unit with main bearing, stroke pin and con rod corresponding exactly to those of the BMW 2.8-litre, six-cylinder car engine. The main and con-rod bearings are also three-layer plain bearings as opposed to anti-friction bearings.

As a result the engine runs smoothly and free from vibration at all revs. Lubrication has also been considerably improved by the incorporation of a high-power Eaton rotary piston pump. The gearbox has also been reworked and finally, apart, that is, from the constant-pressure carburettor in the 75/5 (the R 50/5 and 60/5 have conventional Bing sliding-valve carburettors) there are the electric starter motor and the twelve-volt three-phase current dynamo.

The starter motor is an optional extra in the case of the 500-cc model but standard fitting in the other two.

The further developed and partly redesigned chassis is also part of the BMW new look. The old front-wheel fork has given way to a rigid, long-stroke telescopic fork and the frame is a double loop design with McCandless feather steering head. The rear wheel suspension gives five inches, the front fork a staggering twelve and a half inches!

A rather massive-looking but sleek six-gallon tank, a two-part seat, the layout of the exhaust pipe ends with the silencers, newly-designed protective shields of synthetic material and the handlebars in either European or American style make the new models distinctive vehicles despite their many traditional BMW features.

The way they handle, particularly on bends, the way they brake and the ease with which they can be controlled are on a par with the highest standards of top-flight modern models.

The top speeds are 92, 100 and 109 miles an hour for the 500-, 600- and 750-cc models respectively. They accelerate from nil to sixty miles an hour in 10.2, 8.2 and 6.4 seconds respectively, and do so convincingly.

The price inclusive of value added tax is 3,696, 3,996 or 4,996 Marks in that order. BMW have a full order book for motorcycles until well into 1970 (with an annual production capacity of 12,000, soon to be increased to 15,000 units), which proves that there are still motorcyclists around who are prepared to pay these sort of figures. So BMW are forging ahead on two wheels too!

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 3 September 1969)

Seven per cent fewer deaths on the roads

In the first six months of this year the number of fatal injuries sustained on the roads was 7.2 per cent less than during the corresponding period last year, according to figures released by the Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden.

From 1 January to 30 June this year 6,772 people died on the roads, 528 fewer than in the first six months of 10968. The number of injured persons was 207,201, 6,999 or 3.3 per cent fewer than last year.

A total of 149,005 road accidents involving injury to persons were recorded by the authorities in the first half of this year. Here too the figure represented a drop over last year — one of 4.1 per cent.

(DIE WELT, 11 September 1969)

Prototype gas-turbine-powered lorry



Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nürnberg (MAN) are trying out a prototype gas-turbine-powered long-distance lorry, the first of its kind in the country.

The turbine was developed by a MAN subsidiary, MAN Turbo of Munich, for use in commercial vehicles. Research and development costs amount to 25 or thirty million Marks.

A gas turbine unveiled by a competitor in this country and manufactured under licence is, Hans Moll of the MAN board says, no the ideal answer to the propulsion problem in commercial vehicles.

The 38-ton prototype is designed for speeds of 62 miles an hour. The turbine is mounted below a standard driver's cab and takes up no more room than a conventional engine.

(DIE WELT, 1 September 1969)



Railway track laying by electronic controls

TRAFFIC FLOW INTERRUPTION REDUCED TO A THIRD

Deutsche Bundesbahn, the Federal Railways, recently took into service a track-laying machine that must be one of the most up-to-date in the world. It is 1,100 yards long and automatically performs six operations in conveyor-belt fashion.

The combine track-layer moves at an operational speed of 722 feet an hour. The front travels along the old track, the rear along the new. The middle of the construction train, which consists mainly of low-lying goods waggons, contains special machinery that does the job.

Semi-automatic compressed-air devices separate the track from the sleepers. These devices, mounted on the underside of a waggon, are as yet manually controlled.

The old track is hoisted on to rollers and split up before being conveyed to the waggon where it is welded down to size and loaded on.

Another special device tears the sleepers from the ballast. They then travel by conveyor belt to the front of the train. The ballast is then levelled and repacked by other machines.

In the process the machinery is guided by a live wire strung along the track. On the strength of this wire electronic controls operate.

Further machines law the new sleepers and track, which are carried at the front end of the train.

The part played by the human hand in the entire operation is a little macabre. In the dark below the waggons oily hands emerge from metal armholes and do nothing but screw nuts on to bolts.

The railway authorities are none too happy about this routine job and plan in future to develop automatic apparatus for this operation. The railways already have trouble enough finding operatives for this open-air conveyor-belt job.

The entire combine, costing three million Marks, is nonetheless a great improvement on past methods of track-laying. In 1950 it took 100 men 100 days to lay a kilometre of track and cost 55,000 Marks.

The new process cuts costs to a mere 20,000 Marks and a kilometre of track can easily be renewed in half a day.

The Bundesbahn will soon have six of these track-laying combines in operation to renew track in this country rapidly and rationally. The manpower is badly needed elsewhere.

The track-laying train also benefits rail traffic. Track now needs only to be closed to traffic for a third of the time that used to be necessary.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 August 1969)



The new all-operations-in-one track laying equipment in operation between Pasing-Munich to Gauting.

(Photo: dbb-Umbescheid)

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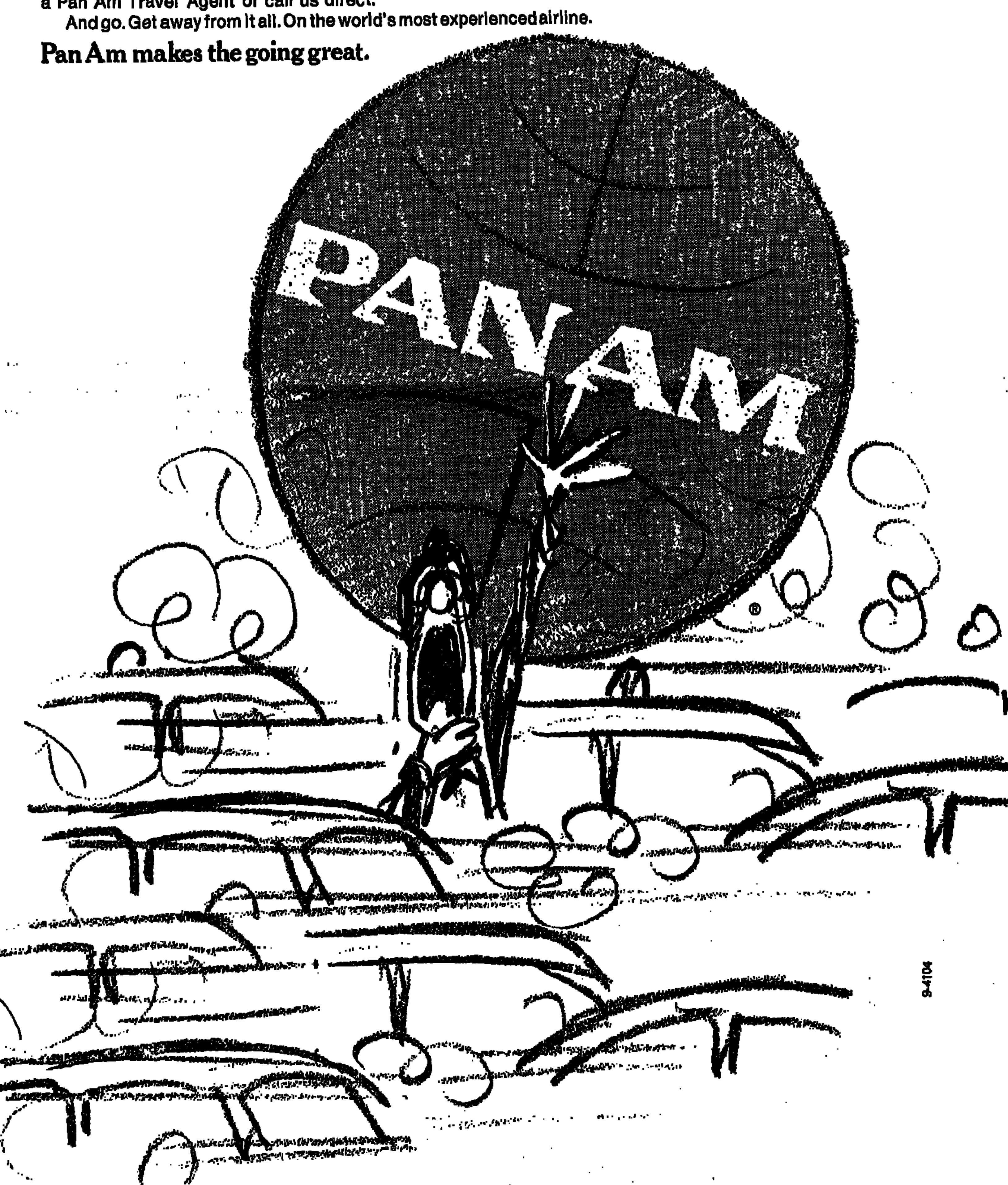
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SIGHTS

A fairy – tale king and his fairy – tale castle

THE MAGIC OF THE MAD KING'S IMAGINATION

In 1952 the American periodical *Life* ran a special number all about the Federal Republic at a time when the whole world had the expression 'The economic miracle' in mind.

The title page of the magazine showed Neuschwanstein Castle in glowing colours.

The colour magazine in so doing was not paying a compliment either to itself, to the Americans or to the Germans.

By any lights this castle is not typically German or for that matter typically Bavarian.

It should certainly not be underestimated as one of the greatly admired attractions in this country. The many thousands of visitors every year who visit this monument of romaticism which was out of fashion when it was built, hoping to fill themselves with a little of the horror and ecstacy of the unique fairy-tale king, Ludwig II, are a constant proof of how this building, now more than ever, can move minds.

Today a monument is being placed upon this monument. It is the 100th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone on 5 September 1869. The occasion also marks the fact that this fortress-like castle on the Schwanstein, now that it has lost its king has found many admirers who bring back the money which Ludwig II so rashly spent to the annoyance of many of his Bavarian subjects.

A contemporary description paints this picture: "On sultry summer nights and when the stars glowed over a winter



King Ludwig II of Bavaria
(Photos: Süddeutscher Verlag, Verkehrsamt der Gemeinde Schwangau)

landscape the King would often ride on the Marienbrücke.

"Then over in the castle the 594 candles in the Sängerhalle were lit. Anyone who was not felling joyous could cheer himself with the enchanting effect of the illuminated windows which projected the breath-taking magnificence of the Hall into the silent mountain wilderness."

The way is not too long for foreign visitors, or admirers from this country to come here and seek such joys. The rise and fall of King Ludwig are documented here at their most obvious and visitors are imbued with the sense of this.

In contrast to his grandfather, Ludwig I, Ludwig II from early on did not chose the capital of his kingdom as the centre of his architectural desires, but the Bavarian Alps.

A few years after he came to the throne in 1864 his government and citizens raised objections to his building plans in Munich, above all the erection of the festival theatre on the right bank of the Isar, which could be connected with the Residenz by a boulevarde.

At the same time his great passion for Richard Wagner made him tire of Munich and he withdrew to those regions where his castles now stand; Herrenchiemsee, Linderhof and Neuschwanstein.

There was another basis which Ludwig weighed up more and more for escaping reality. His ideas of the glory and invulnerability of his kingdom were undermined in the early years of his reign especially by the lost war of 1866.

The character of this monarch who was dehtroned twenty years later because of insanity led him to abdicate this world and set up in its place a dream world of his own in which his ideal of past glory and greatness would flourish.

Describing the site of Neuschwanstein to Richard Wagner he said; "The spot is one of the most beautiful, holy and unapproachable in Bavaria." He was thinking of *Lohengrin*, the story of the Holy Grail, which had brought Wagner and the composer's musical drama so close to him and he set out to make his Holy Grail castle something special.

In the spring of 1868 he made his plan to build a castle in the true style of the old German feudal knights' castles on the rocks above the Pöllat Gorge.

He was brought up in Schwangau where his father Maximilian II had already purchased the ruins of Schwanstein. He wanted to give it back "its original mediaeval form" and create a place which



"in every respect is more beautiful and more pleasant to live in than lower Hohenschwangau which is constantly being deconsecrated by my Mother's prose."

And he sensed; "They will take their revenge, the vengeful gods and live up there with Us on the rocky heights surrounded by the breath of heaven."

The King had been deeply impressed by a visit to the Wartburg whose essence had filled him with a longing for the glory of the German feudal knights and their times.

He was further inspired by the Kaisersburg in Nuremberg, castles on the Rhine and similar structures of a great past imbued with a romantic tradition.

In the building documents which were drawn up in 1868 the work was described as restoration of the old castle ruin. But it became a gigantic dream turned reality for the King. This means the restoration of former greatness with the idea of a theatre created as reality. This passion for building and restoring a long past haunted Ludwig II all through his life.

The new Hohenschwangau castle, the name given to the building in Ludwig's lifetime, and which was only later called Neuschwanstein, was to be Lohengrin's castle.

It wals also to become the castle of Tannhäuser, the singer and love poet who had enticed Venus into the magic mountain and whose saga had so greatly impressed King Ludwig by means of Wagner's opera.

Ludwig commissioned stage-designer Christian Jank from the Munich Hoftheater for the first sketches. Before the laying of the foundation stone extensive levelling works and road-building were carried out. On 5 September, 1869 the terrain for the foundations of the castle were laid out.

The stage-designer's drawings were naturally subject to much revision. The architects were E. Riedel and from 187[illegible] G. Dollmann. Finally a year before the King died J. Hoffmann who until then had been entrusted with interior decoration, took charge of the building operations.

At this time a number of painters and architects were busy with interior decorating. Artists and craftsmen found a broad field for activity. But when the King finally left Neuschwanstein in 1886 a great part of the building was still in the very early stages of completion.

Five years after Ludwig's death his chaplain wrote in the history of Bavaria that the monarch's buildings were "madness, folly" and "oriental extravagance."

By present day standards the expenses for Neuschwanstein and the King's other buildings would not really be so excessive. Ludwig was constantly beset by worry about how he would find the money for the buildings be planned.

The King's demands must have seemed daily more and more mad to his ministers. When it came to taking the decision about whether he should be made to abdicate on account of mental sickness they were a powerful argument for the case.

"We therefore ask you urgently to do everything in your power to carry out our dearest wish and to silence those elements which seek to frustrate Our plans."

His desire to have new buildings thrown up in the end led the Bavarian King even to turn to Bismarck for help. But the Chancelor of the new Reich could only give him indirect help and advise him to be more thrifty.

Even at this time Germany was turning its attention to the Bavarian thorne. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* wrote in 1885 that

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Philatelists strive to improve their public image

Stamp-collectors no longer want to sit in a quiet little room and pursue their decidedly meditative hobby. So they are offering it to the public as cultural enrichment for leisuretime in the seventies. Grandfather's philately is dead – this was the message which came across at the 70th Philatelists Congress in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

Roughly 60,000 stamp-club members are out to show the estimated 5 million stamp fanatics in the Federal Republic new ways of tackling their hobby.

The days when stamps were neatly stuck in albums and left to go yellow or sent to auctioneers for sale are numbered. Now they will be swopped at club evenings occasionally presented and to a valuer. At exhibitions with a modern layout selected stamps are to made acceissible to the general public which will make philately democratic.

At the Garmisch-Partenkirchen Congress the displays were presented in a modern style. An exhibition which was opened by Posts and Communications Minister Werner Dollinger had stamps ranging from the Bavarian Black One which was issued in November 1849 and was the first German postage stamp, to the most recent Bundespost Olympic Games series.

Visitors to this exhibition gazed in astonishment at a collection behind glass including the first airmail stamps with a winged lion with the address America via Bremen, mill-wheel rubberstamps from the days before postage stamps as we know them were issued, and colera letters which had been held over smoking candles as a protection against the epidemic.

An express letter from the year 1580 bears the imprint of three gallows on the envelop so that the courier will not delay.

Kaiser Maximilian I sent from Italy the first letter from the battle front. From the post-war years 1923 and 1945 there are interesting special frankings. On philatelist has put his Tibet collection on show which has great rarity value.

The value of the heavily guarded collection in the Garmisch Kurtheater was well into the millions, but intentionally all indications of the value of each individual exhibit were suppressed.

Stamp collectors want to show in this way that they are more concerned about the idealistic than the material value of the stamps.

They are no longer content that professionals have dragged philately down to a money-making level as one philatelic magazine complained.

Copywriters and commercial artists will help collectors in future to find a modern image. Symposiums and teach-ins will help the general public to a knowledge of stamps. Many people can see philately in the role ay an aid to education. But these philatelic revolutionaries are in a clear minority. The majority still follow grandfathers methods.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 10 September 1969)



SPORT

Are cinder tracks a thing of the past?

ATHLETES' HEALTH AND SAFETY MUST BE THE FIRST CONSIDERATION

Athletes' performances on the running-track have always depended to a certain extent on the quality of the track. There has always been talk of fast, slow, soft, hard and dead, that is, inflexible, tracks

The mixture that went to make the surface of fast tracks has frequently been shrouded in mystery. Basically it has always been a matter of ensuring a certain fundamental elasticity. On the water-bound tracks of old groundsmen resorted to all manner of subterfuges.

Peat, for instance, was added to the surface but after a while the weather took its toll, the surface warped and the track soon had its ups and downs.

As long ago as 1935 the Finns added bitumen granules to the approach to the javelin at the old Zoo stadium in Helsinki. From this track Gerhard Stöck, this country's Olympic gold medallist, established a javelin record that stood for nineteen years and the Finns subsequently threw distances of 256 feet, then considered fantastic.

Shortly before the 1936 Berlin Olympics it came to light that the running-track was dead and could not be expected to produce particularly good results. Then Christian Busch, the man responsible, previously a director of Cologne stadium and an experimenter with fast mixtures, had the track torn up a few days before the Games were due to start and resurfaced it with his own special mixture.

One of the upshots was Jesse Owens's 10.2 seconds in a 100 metres heat.

Rebound elasticity is a speical problem, particularly where distances of between 100 and 400 metres are concerned. Jumpers, too, have always been interested in the prospects of rebound.

Yet despite all attempts to find a special formula for the conventional materials (ground slack, stone, clay and sand) and the addition of special devices below the surface only partial success was achieved. Water-bound surfaces are also susceptible to heavy rainfall and storms.

With the aid of all kinds of subsoil drainage, including hygroscopic mixtures, rainwater was drained away promptly enough but on occasion heavy rainfall and storms have put paid to timetables worked out right down to the minute for an important meeting.

On a softened track hopes of record times have often been disappointed. The spot or rebound elasticity of the track – its bant, as it were – have gone by the board.

Small wonder that a lookout was kept for materials that lack the drawbacks of conventional track surfacing material. In the United States, where more horse races take place per day than anywhere else in the world, stables also lobbied for faster and less weather-prone tracks.

The success that synthetics proved paved the way for the building of synthetic running-tracks. Horse-racing started the ball rolling.

In America polyurethane-based synthetics quickly gained general acceptance. Polyurethane, a material developed by Bayer in this country before the war, is a by-product of hydration that by the addition of certain quantities of isocyanate can be rendered more or less homogeneous, elastic or tough. It can practically be produced to any bant or isolation specifications.

At the same time attempts were made to find suitable compounds for the surface of running-tracks. The results were mixtures of mainly asphalt, bitument, rubber and cork pressed together with the aid of certain binding agents to form a more or less coarse material. The material was then laid either cold or hot, careful preparation of the ground below being, of course, of great importance.

The decisive stimulus for a trend that can, no doubt, no longer be stopped was the use of a synthetic running-track at the Olympic stadium in Mexico City. The magic formula of the material used, a material that definitely played a part in staggering improvements on the records, is marketed under the trade name Tartan.



Under starter's orders (Photo: Nordbild)

Like other homogeneous synthetics, such as Akus Elastic, Uniturf, Rekortan and Fastrac, all of which are specially designed for running and jumping tracks, tartan tracks possess all the qualities a sprinter or jumper could wish for reaching maximum performance.

It allows spikes plenty of grip but is also excellent for normal track shoes provided the surface is not wet. It is extremely spot and rebound elastic and has a virtual catapult effect on sprinters and jumpers as they speed along it.

It also guarantees like conditions on all tracks because the consistency of the track surface is always the same. Even after the heaviest rainfall the track can always be used, because the track is slightly inclined towards the centre of the track. This incline is slight enough to be permissible but sufficient to ensure that water on the track surface swiftly drains off into adjacent drainage systems.

Mexico City amply confirmed the suitability of polyurethane-based synthetic tracks for running and jumping events.

The synthetic surface, though, is extremely expensive. So is the preparation of the ground geneath, which must to all intents and purposes withstand the strain and stress imposed on major roads.

Stuttgart, for instance, paid roughly one million Marks for synthetic tracks and field run-ups. Products since developed in this country, such as Rekortan, Elastan, Akus Elastic and others, may cost a few hundred thousand Marks less to buy and lay but in comparison with conventional water-bound tracks and underlay, which cost 150,000 to 200,000 Marks, synthetic tracks are still far too expensive for tracks to be replaced in towns and villages all over the country, even though Akus Elastic, made in Ludwigshafen, costs only half the price of Tartan per square yard.

At the moment research is under way to determine the suitability of track surfaces of all kinds: not only synthetics but also mixtures of bitumont, asphalt, aggregate, rubber and cork, such as Rubcor.

It remains to be seen what the results will be but they will certainly relate to wear and tear from track shoes and spikes, reaction to variations in temperature, the possibilities of clearing water from the surface, the amount of servicing needed (and thus the savings in personnel) and many other factors.

Precious little new, though, will come to light about improvements in performance due to the track material. Athletes already know from personal experience what a difference synthetic track surfaces make.

Despite a definite tendency to improve performances synthetic tracks have their disadvantages too. The unbounden praise of Tartan at Mexico City and the resulting trend to use polyurethane tracks everywhere and do so regardless of the expense has given way, after unfavourable experiences on the part of both athletes and coaches, to a major reappraisal and a degree of uncertainty.

Premature advocates of synthetic tracks who used to accuse less definite specialists, such as medical men, of being behind the times and overcautious – advocates of synthetic tracks in order to improve records at all costs – are heard less and less.

Top-flight athletes both in this country and abroad have noted for some time that the body is just not equal to regular training on springy synthetic tracks. Cartilages, ligaments, muscles and bones are too damage-prone. Accidents such as cartilage and skin trouble have resulted and specialists, particularly sports doctors, nowadays generally warn against continual running on synthetic tracks.

Is it, for that matter, really necessary for every small town and large city to build synthetic tracks in their parks and sports facilities so that the odd athlete can run world record times?

Synthetic tracks and run-ups should be reserved for certain training centres and used in trials over specified lengths of time to test top-flight athletes' fitness and form. They are also essential in a number of cities so that international meetings up to and including Olympics can be held.

They would, on the other hand, be unsuitable for young athletes in whose case the quality of the track is of no immediate consequence. Yet just to use them for occasional trials would leave them unused over long periods.

Synthetic tracks provided food for thought for track shoe manufacturers. The manufacturers have always been a great help to competitive sport, basing ideas and developments on athletes' personal experience.

Track shoe manufacturers rightly wondered whether shoes with four or six longish spikes designed for conventional cinder tracks were the right thing for synthetic tracks.

Relatively dense, homogeneous synthetics does not allow spikes of normal length to penetrate. The runner is running on tiny stilts, cannot be as footsure and is liable to sustain injuries to the feet.

The technical commission of the International Amateur Athletics Federation cannot be said to have made a wise decision in rejecting the idea of special spikes for synthetic tracks.

In order to increase grip the number of spikes would have been considerably increased and their size and length adapted to the specifiactions of the track in question.

The commission would be well advised to reconisder in detail the proposals for new spikes made prior to Mexico City. Files to shorten spikes are said to have been in great demand in Mexico. Top-flight athletes and coaches devoted much of their time to metalwork.

It is clear that more experience must be gained and experiments conducted by athletes, technologists and doctors before a general verdict can be passed on the suitability of synthetic running-tracks. The plastics industry will no doubt have its own contribution to make to developments.

By all means let synthetic tracks sell but let us also have healthy, uninjured athletes. (DIE ZEIT, 12 September 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1 50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR — 60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Columbia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0 50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
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Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
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Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
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New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0 90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0 15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0 50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0 50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
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